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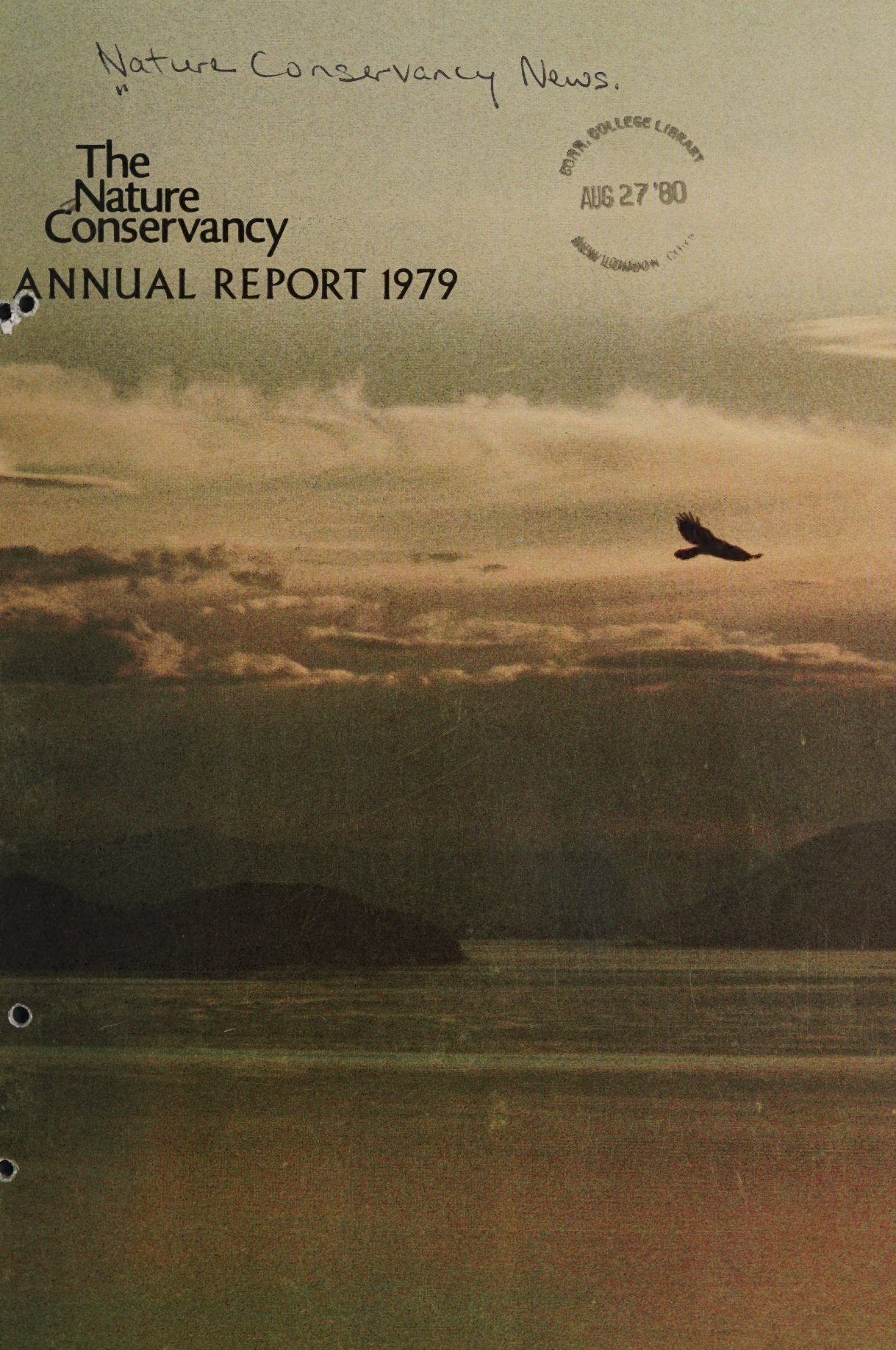
# The Nature Conservancy ANNUAL REPORT 1979



# YOU ARE ABOUT TO DISCOVER . . .

Braidwood Dunes and Savanna (page 11)

Pine Butte Swamp (page 13)

Nags Head Woods (page 18)

Thousand Acre Swamp (page 15)

Four remarkable places — just a few of the many special places the Conservancy helped save in 1979.

We need your support to insure their continued protection. Please use the enclosed envelope today and give to a very special place.

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# The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy is a national conservation organization committed to preserving natural diversity by protecting lands that contain the best examples of all components of the natural world. Since 1950, the Conservancy and its members have been involved in the preservation of over 1.6 million acres in 50 states, the Virgin Islands, Canada, and the Caribbean.

Vital forests, wetlands, prairies, mountains, and islands—refuges for threatened wildlife and rare plants, places of special beauty—remain untouched and protected because the Conservancy and its members cared and acted quickly. These safeguarded areas are a record of our accomplishments, a promise for tomorrow, and a legacy for the future.

The Nature Conservancy News
Volume 30, Number 3
May/June 1980

# DECADE OF

It was a decade of Santanoni, Sevilleta, Santa Cruz . . . of Katharine Ordway and her love for the prairies . . . of corporate awakening and involvement . . . of giving birth to the 13-island Virginia Coast Reserve . . . of the $23 million Land Preservation Fund . . . of eagles, manatees, and carnivorous plants . . . of 22 State Heritage Programs . . . and of unforgettable people like Willie Browne.

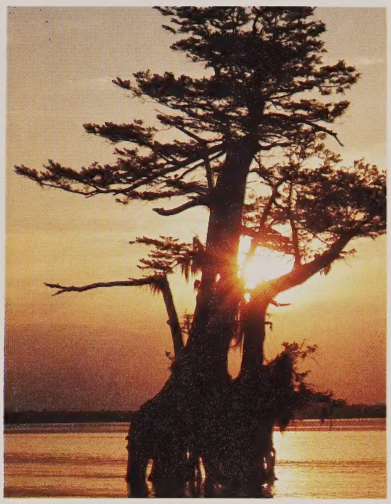
For The Nature Conservancy, the 1970's comprised a decade of diversity, a fact reflected not only in the variety of wildernesses and wildlife saved, but also in the various programs designed to assist in finding, protecting, and caring for ecologically significant, vital lands. Unifying all Conservancy programs is a single objective: to save the very best of remaining unprotected ecosystems and habitats for Earth's rich variety of plants and animals. While this one goal is by no means diverse, its pursuit has brought us diversity from state to state, coast to coast, and, in some cases, country to country.

**Reflections on a Decade**

The Conservancy's 1970 Annual Report noted that the most critical need then was to increase the revolving fund. The fund contained only $1.07 million and was being used to full capacity. At the beginning of 1971, the Ford Foundation offered the Conservancy a challenge grant of $600,000 specifically for increasing the Project Revolving Fund. To win the grant and boost the fund, which provides the Conservancy with money to purchase natural areas, we had to raise $4 for each $1 offered by the Ford Foundation. By the end of 1973, the goal had been reached—the Project Revolving Fund contained $4 million.

We realized in early 1977 that although the revolving fund had grown to $4.5 million, it would still be insufficient for the needs of the years ahead. The Land Preservation Fund was inaugurated to increase the Conservancy's revolving fund capacity by $20 million. Our donors were generous: by late 1979, $23.2 million had been contributed, and our initial goal exceeded. The Richard King Mellon Foundation alone donated $9 million to the Land Preservation Fund.

The past decade saw far more than just an increase in the Conservancy's financial stability. Working together toward shared goals set by the long-range plans of 1980 and 1982 (programs developed through a planning process begun in the mid-'70's), the Conservancy accomplished a number of important conservation objectives.



# DIVERSITY

**Identification**

Few actions approach the value of one generation handing down to the next a heritage of unspoiled natural wealth. This, in essence, is the concept behind the Conservancy's natural heritage programs, a concept born in the early 1970's and implemented when the first program was established in South Carolina in 1974. By using a statewide approach to classifying and collecting information on endangered species and threatened natural systems, the heritage programs identify which habitats and ecosystems are most in need of protection. A state can then move to protect its unique environmental elements *before* they are further imperiled. The natural elements may be a rare white fringed prairie orchid, a vernal pool, an endangered Florida panther, a virgin stand of long-leaf pines, a heron rookery, or an unusual outcropping of limestone.

Following the success of the South Carolina program, which was transferred as planned to state government in 1975, the Conservancy received a crucial grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to assemble a staff to help create state heritage programs across the country. Between 1974 and 1979, 21 programs were established with states and another with the Tennessee Valley Authority, with over half transferred to state governments by the end of the decade. Surpassing the 1979 goal of four, five new programs were established: Minnesota, Colorado, Arizona, Maryland, and the California Natural Diversity Data Bank.

But more significant than the numbers of heritage programs are the initial results:

- Information from the North Carolina program has indicated 150 natural areas that should be protected. Of these, 10 of the top priority areas have already been secured by the Conservancy and its new North Carolina office.
- Data from the West Virginia Heritage Trust Program was used to help persuade a major corporation to place two of its properties within its *own* natural areas system.
- To identify potential conflicts between development and conservation, the Tennessee Heritage Program now reviews between 3,000 and 4,000 proposed development projects *each year*.
- Data from the South Carolina program confirmed the ecological significance of one of the Continental Group's holdings, Stevens Creek. Continental donated the 138-acre tract to the Conservancy.
- In Ohio, South Carolina, and elsewhere, scores of plant species previously thought to have been extirpated have been rediscovered by the natural heritage inventories.

Funds provided by the National Science Foundation, Exxon Company USA, the Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, as well as a second grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, have been used to refine and improve methods for existing and future state natural heritage programs.

**Protection**

The past 10 years have seen the Conservancy preserve a wide variety of habitats and ecosystems—cypress swamps, barrier islands, bottomland hardwood forests, and desert systems. But no single natural system has been sought and protected as diligently and lovingly as America's remaining prairies, from the tallgrasses of Kansas, to the prairie potholes of the Dakotas, to

*Katharine Ordway's extraordinary natural legacy includes the 8,600-acre Konza: an internationally recognized tallgrass prairie in the Flint Hills of Kansas.*

the rolling grasslands of Missouri. Throughout the decade, the generosity of Miss Katharine Ordway enabled the Conservancy to create the most extensive grassland sanctuary system in the country, the Ordway Prairie Reserve System. In 1978 Miss Ordway was appointed the Conservancy's first Land Guardian. Truly the "lady who saved the prairies," she died in spring 1979 at the age of 80.

One of the areas within the Ordway System, the Konza Prairie Research Natural Area in Kansas, was designated a Biosphere Reserve in 1979—along with the Virginia Coast Reserve—by the United Nations. Only 166 such reserves exist throughout the world.

Willie Browne was also a very special donor. A 360-acre sanctuary near Jacksonville, Florida, the Theodore Roosevelt Preserve contains two large swamps and a heron rookery. After spending almost all his 80 years alone on the property, safeguarding it from poachers and vandals, Mr. Browne gave his land to the Conservancy in 1970. Worth $1.5 million and eyed by speculators and developers, the wild marshland on the St. Johns River was Willie Browne's sole worldly possession.

It was the 1973 gift from the Union Camp Corporation of 49,000 acres of the Great Dismal Swamp—valued at over $12 million—that ultimately provided the Conservancy with the most far-reaching benefits. Based on what Union Camp felt was the best use for its unique holdings, the well-publicized Dismal Swamp donation awakened the corporate world to the opportunities for land conservation. In turn, The American Land Trust, a special two-year Bicentennial celebration program, was created to capture industry interest in conservation.

With a goal of saving at least one significant area in each of the 50 states, The Trust offered the private sector a chance for involvement in natural area protection. Over 20 major U.S. corporations participated, making gifts of land worth over $31 million.

An outgrowth of The American Land Trust Program, the Corporate Relations Committee of the Board of Governors was created in mid-1978 to assist the Conservancy in its efforts with American industry. In the committee's first year alone, land donations from the U.S. business community totaled 18,477 acres and were worth more than $7.4 million. Meanwhile, over the entire decade the Conservancy's corporate associates program grew from its first associate in 1971—Syntex, U.S.A.—to a total of 272 by the end of 1979.

Amid all the figures and growth rates, perhaps the greatest protection story of the decade is that of the Virginia Coast Reserve. It began in 1969 when the Conservancy learned of a development

firm's plans to turn three natural barrier islands into a giant sprawling resort community. Those three islands and most of the 10 that followed were purchased over an 8-year period with funds provided by the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust. On Christmas Day, 1975, the front page of the *Washington Post* announced Conservancy acquisition of the 13th island. Designated the Virginia Coast Reserve in 1976, the islands and their surrounding marshlands comprise the only unbroken barrier island chain in the U.S. preserved in its natural state.

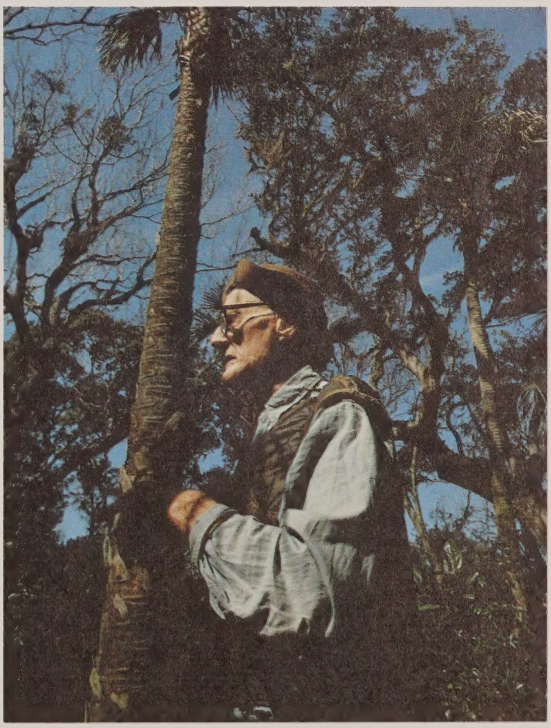
The '70's also saw the Conservancy greatly increase cooperative protection projects with state and federal agencies. Acquired in 1973 for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico was the Conservancy's largest single project—221,775 acres. The Pascagoula bottomlands, a 32,000-acre wilderness in Mississippi, could not have been preserved without close cooperation between the state's Game and Fish Department and the Conservancy.

In 1974 the Conservancy went even further with its idea of assisting others . . . all the way to the Caribbean and Central America, where the fragile, rich tropical rain forests are disappearing at a rate of 50 acres per minute. In addition to projects on the island of Dominica, on the Netherlands Antilles isle of Bonaire, in Belize, and in Canada (Long Point), the Conservancy's International Program joined forces with the World Wildlife Fund and Rare Animal Relief Effort in 1976 to assist the Costa Rican government in establishing the Corcovado National Park. The 89,000-acre park on the Osa Peninsula of Costa Rica is the largest protected rain forest in Central America.

One of the most remarkable facts about the decade is the total number of acres preserved. Of the 1.6 million acres saved by the Conservancy, 1.4 were acquired *in the last 10 years.* The '70's saw a climb from totals of 437 projects protecting 139,723 acres (at the end of 1969) to 2,332 projects safeguarding over 1,625,519 acres. 1979 brought over 100,000 acres in 188 projects. Over the decade, our total assets—primarily land which amounts to almost *90 percent* of the total—soared from about $20 million in 1969 to over $170 million in 1979.

The backbone of the Conservancy, membership, has risen correspondingly. The decade saw our members shoot from around 18,500 at the onset of 1970 to a grand total of 72,279 at 1979's end. Thanks to various membership programs initiated in the mid-'70's, the most dramatic growth in members occurred from '76 to '79: we welcomed over 44,000 new members. In 1979 alone, membership increased by 20 percent. Life members enrolled over the last 10 years grew as well, from fewer than 500 to 2,400. The '70's also saw the creation of 10 new chapters—South Fork Shelter Island, Eastern Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Maryland, Tennessee, Lower Hudson, Arizona, New Mexico, North Carolina, Michigan—giving us 35 chapters in 29 states.

New chapters, more members . . . ultimately they mean greater protection of Conservancy sanctuaries. Increased support is brought about by increased public awareness and understanding of the Conservancy's objectives and accomplishments. In the 1970's, through national publications, television, films, and radio, The Nature Conservancy's message reached more Americans across the country than ever before. Articles concerning the Conservancy appeared in *Time, Life, Newsweek, National Geographic, Smithsonian,* and scores of other national and regional magazines. Features or editorials were carried in major newspapers throughout the nation, from the *New York Times* to the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* to the *San Francisco Chronicle.* We gained national exposure on all major TV networks—ABC, CBS, NBC. Three films were released about major Conservancy projects: one about Santa



*The man who gave it away to keep it wild. Willie Browne donated his marshland home of 80 years to the Conservancy in 1970.*

Cruz Island, produced by the Atlantic Richfield Foundation; another on the Snake River Birds of Prey Natural Area in Idaho, made by Morley Nelson and Tundra Films; and a recent film on the Virginia Coast Reserve, produced by Continental Financial Services, a member company of The Continental Group. Narrated by Robert Redford, a public service announcement on the Conservancy was filmed in 1978 and has been released in Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Atlanta, and Texas. During the '70's Young & Rubicam became our volunteer advertising agency. *The Nature Conservancy News* blossomed from a 20-page black & white quarterly to a colorful 32-page bimonthly magazine. The Conservancy received additional recognition in 1979 by winning the Public Relations Society of America's Silver Anvil Award for a communications program aimed at encouraging corporate involvement in land conservation.

**Stewardship**

The last ten years were a time of tremendous growth for the Conservancy, highlighted by the increased acquisition of natural areas. But simply acquiring land does not insure its protection. The Conservancy has a long-term obligation to protect the areas we set aside, to gain an appreciation for and an understanding of the natural lands we seek to preserve.

In 1973 the Conservancy owned and managed 360 preserves. By the end of the decade this figure had soared to 670 sanctuaries, encompassing about 350,000 acres scattered through the U.S. and the Virgin Islands. These figures do not include areas acquired cooperatively and later transferred, but which, nonetheless, require protection during the interim.

In some cases, the Conservancy is not the best long-term manager for certain lands. For instance, in 1979 we created 31 new sanctuaries that we will retain and administer, and added 56 tracts to existing preserves. However, during the same year we also transferred 99 properties to government agencies or other conservation groups for management and protection.

Responsible for managing Conservancy-owned sanctuaries, the Stewardship Department was created in 1973. In the years that followed, professional staff members were added at the national level, in the regional offices, and in several field and chapter offices. But, as throughout the decade, most areas continued to be managed by a dedicated group of more than 4,000 volun-

*The protection story of the decade—an awesome assemblage of natural barrier islands and marshes known as the Virginia Coast Reserve.*

teer land stewards. Only 24 preserves are professionally staffed. Our preserves, which are used for research, education, and a variety of compatible uses—from photography to hiking—now compose the most extensive private sanctuary system in the U.S.

Events of the late '70's demonstrated that the Conservancy could raise funds for managing preserves, not just for acquiring them.

A 1977 grant from the Mott Foundation has enabled the Conservancy to hire student interns to work with local committees in developing ecological inventories of all preserves. Information gathered from the inventories is used to prepare master plans—programs for managing each sanctuary. At the end of 1979 inventories and master plans had been completed for 60 percent of all Conservancy preserves. Plans are being drafted for the remaining areas.

With a grant from the Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation in 1977, the Conservancy created a preserve data base. The data base, composed of computer and manual files, allows us to take a broad look at all the areas we own, to make ecological and managerial assessments, and to determine what still needs to be protected. For instance, we now know that the Conservancy owns 139 preserves with federally endangered species or ecosystems and 230 sanctuaries with state endangered, threatened, or endemic species or ecosystems.

Building on the preserve inventories, the Cleveland and Gund Foundations funded the Student Stewardship Program. The program, successfully tested in Ohio in 1978, gives high school and junior college students the opportunity to be involved in preserve management—to gain an understanding of the importance of protecting natural areas. Teaching kits to start local programs are available through Conservancy regional offices.

Established in 1973, the $350,000 Rodney Johnson Stewardship Endowment yields about $19,000 a year for use by regional, state, and chapter offices and by preserve stewardship committees. Over the endowment's six-year history, more than 150 separate grants have been made, totaling almost $100,000. Grant recipients have raised an additional $120,000 to match the Rodney Johnson funds.

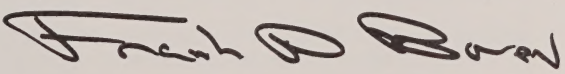
In 1979 separate challenge grants from the Virginia Environmental Endowment and the Kresge Foundation were received for the Virginia Coast Reserve. The grants and matching contributions from donors in Virginia and elsewhere amounted to $1 million for the island preserve system. In addition, the Max C. Fleischmann Foundation has approved a $2 million grant for stewardship of Santa Cruz Island, the 87-square-mile island preserve 23 miles off the California coast. Santa Cruz is habitat for no fewer than 20 rare and endemic plants and animals, including the Channel Island fox.

**Groundwork for the '80's**

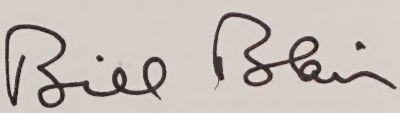
During the last decade The Nature Conservancy made impressive strides in natural area identification, protection, and stewardship. The achievements include establishing 22 natural heritage inventories in 21 states; completing almost 2,000 preservation projects; broadening our base of support to over 70,000 members, as well as major American foundations and corporations; raising $26 million in revolving capital funds to acquire land; beginning to use new techniques in natural area protection; and gaining a greater understanding of the land we are committed to protect.

These are the accomplishments. Credit is due to many: volunteers, generous donors, a dedicated Board of Governors, members, staff. . . . But one person must be singled out. Patrick F. Noonan resigned as the Conservancy's President in April, 1980, to seek new challenges after accomplishing the goals he had set for himself at the Conservancy. Under his leadership, from 1973 'til the end of '79, the Conservancy experienced its greatest growth and success. Membership grew by more than 200 percent; the organization's staff expanded from 40 to 300; $120 million was donated to purchase land, and land was acquired, through gift or purchase, worth $440 million. All told, 1.1 million acres of the total 1.4 million acres acquired in the '70's were preserved during Pat Noonan's tenure as President.

The Conservancy enters the '80's with a sound financial base, clear goals, and a committed, growing group of supporters. We are well prepared to meet the challenges of the new decade.



Frank D. Boren,
Chairman of the Board



William D. Blair, Jr.,
President

# PROJECTS 1979

## ALASKA

**Chilkat Eagles Preserve,** Haines Borough (Gift of Dorothy Whitney and Lois Jund.) 320 acres of wet forestland; critical habitat for world's densest wintering concentration of bald eagles. To be transferred to National Audubon Society for management.

## ARIZONA

**San Bernardino Ranch,** Cochise Co. 2,384 acres of desert scrub and mesquite bosque containing southeastern Arizona's only remaining low riparian habitat—critical to the federally endangered Gila topminnow and another uncommon fish species, the Yaqui chub. Acquired in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. See page 9.

## CALIFORNIA

**Castle Rock,** Del Norte Co. 13-acre rocky island off extreme northern California; single spring staging area for Aleutian Canada geese, and one of the state's two greatest seabird rookeries. To be transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for management.

**Dorland Preserve,** Addition, Riverside Co. 80 acres of meadowland extending wooded 300-acre preserve; wildlife includes fox, bobcat, great horned owl, and white-tailed kite. Managed by a local stewardship committee.

**Sacramento River Oxbow Preserve,** Glenn Co. 94 acres containing one of the state's finest riparian forests—cottonwood and willow with dense understory and an oxbow pond; abundance of bird species. To be managed by the state's Wildlife Conservation Board.

**Wilder Beach,** Santa Cruz Co. 60 acres of coastal marsh, lagoon, and dune; one of the county's two remaining snowy plover nesting sites. To be managed as part of Wilder Ranch State Park.

## COLORADO

**Animas City Mountain,** La Plata Co. 300 acres rising steeply in sandstone cliffs to conifer forest; critical elk wintering and calving grounds. Incorporated in the Bureau of Land Management's Perins Peak Wildlife Area.

**Mueller Ranch,** Addition, Teller Co. 640-acre addition to the 4,982-acre protected wildlife area along the western flank of Pike's Peak; home to one herd of bighorn sheep and migration site for a large part of another. Managed by the Colorado Division of Wildlife. Conservancy transactions will ultimately protect the entire 12,000-acre ranch.

## CONNECTICUT

**Bellamy Preserve,** Town of Bethlehem. 90 acres, primarily second growth woodland dominated by red oak and white ash, leased to the Conservancy for management by the Connecticut Chapter. A generous endowment for stewardship was donated by property owner, Miss Caroline W. Ferriday.

**Bluff Head,** Town of Guilford. 75 acres forested with hemlock, birch, beech, and oak; contains a 180 million-year-old shale deposit with four genera of fish fossils. Managed by the Connecticut Chapter.

**Burnham Brook Preserve,** Addition, Town of East Haddam. A lease on 140 acres adjacent to the 173-acre preserve extends habitat for wetland species; flora includes showy orchid and closed gentian. Managed by the Connecticut Chapter.

**Greenwich Cove Marsh.** Addition, Town of Greenwich (Gift of Mrs. Torsten Forsberg.) One-quarter-acre addition to protected *Spartina* marsh with tidal creeks and mudflats; feeding and resting area for waterfowl and wading birds. Managed by Connecticut Chapter.

**Hamlet Hill Farm,** Town of Salisbury (Gift of John A. B. Mitchell, Henry B. Mitchell, Mary M. McClintock, and Agnes M. Forsyth.) 320 acres atop Wetuwanchu Mountain, crossed by one mile of Appalachian Trail; upland hardwood-hemlock forest with 10-acre red maple swamp. Managed by a local Conservancy stewardship committee with the aid of the Salisbury Association.

**Mount Higby Natural Area,** Town of Middletown (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Houston.) 122 acres of traprock ridge with talus slopes and unusual northern plants; managed by a committee of the Connecticut Chapter.

**Juniper Hill,** Addition, Town of Middlebury. 14-acre expansion of the 133-acre Juniper Hill Natural Area, including a talus slope and a buttonbush moss vernal pool. Managed by the Middlebury Land Trust.

**Mine Hill,** Town of Roxbury. 360-acre heavily wooded tract on the Shepaug River; shafts of area's historic iron mines house Connecticut's only occurrence of the federally endangered Indiana bat. Acquired by the Roxbury Land Trust with Conservancy assistance.

**Katharine Ordway Preserve,** Town of Weston (Bequest of Katharine Ordway.) 62-acre woodland close to the Conservancy's Lucius Pond Ordway/Devil's Den Preserve. Management by the Devil's Den Preserve Committee.

**Pond Mountain Trust,** Addition, Town of Kent. 44 acres near the Conservancy's St. John's Ledges Preserve; high upland hardwood forest crossed by the Appalachian Trail. Conservancy assisted the Pond Mountain Trust of Kent in acquiring this inholding.

**Weir Nature Preserve,** Addition, Town of Wilton (Gift of Helen Irwin Littauer.) 7 acres bordering a small,

meandering, marshy stream; preserve acreage now stands at 76. Managed by the Connecticut Chapter.

### DELAWARE

**Great Cypress Swamp,** Sussex Co. (Gift of Chesapeake Corporation of Virginia.) 539 acres of the largest forested expanse in Delaware, nesting site for one of the state's three southern bald eagle families. Transferred to Delaware Wild Lands, Inc., a private conservation organization that owns and manages much of the 12,000-acre Great Cypress. See page 10.

### FLORIDA

**Robert Battey Preserve,** Lee Co. (Gift of Mrs. Frances Curtis in memory of her father.) 120 acres of mangrove swamp; roosting and resting area for the brown pelican, osprey, great blue heron, mangrove cuckoo, and other birds. Slated for inclusion in the Matlacha Pass National Wildlife Refuge.

**Biscayne Bay,** Dade Co. 517 acres span transition from intertidal mangrove swamp and salt marsh to upland savanna. To be conveyed to the Dade County Park and Recreation Department for management as a natural area.

**Janet Butterfield Brooks Preserve,** Additions, Hernando Co. (Gift of Janet Butterfield Brooks.) 85 acres bring the forested preserve's area to 400 acres. Managed by a local volunteer committee.

**Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge,** Citrus Co. (Gift of Alico, Inc.) 526 acres of salt marsh and small islands of live oak and cabbage palm; breeding site for osprey, habitat for large concentration of wintering waterfowl and wading birds. To be conveyed to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion in the refuge.

**Crocodile Lakes Preserve,** Monroe Co. 18 acres of critical buffer for four active American crocodile nests; mangrove, mahogany, Jamaica dogwood, and burned-over West Indian hammock. To be transferred to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for management.

**Floraglades Sanctuary,** Addition, Glades Co. 5-acre acquisition enlarging the 70-acre sanctuary, 1977 gift of preserve manager Jessie Freeling. Sanctuary protects rich freshwater environment—ponds, virgin cypress swampland, wet prairie, pine woods and cabbage palms, hammocks of giant oaks.

**Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge,** Addition, Monroe Co. 80-acre Gulf Coast island of red, black, and white mangroves, buttonwood trees, and cabbage palms. Acquired in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion in the existing refuge.

**Moya Sanctuary,** Additions, Glade Co. (Gifts of Dr. Frank Moya.) 40 acres extend preserve habitat for two state threatened species: Florida sandhill crane and Audubon's caracara. To be managed by the Florida Chapter in concert with the Conservancy's nearby Floraglades Sanctuary.

**Osborn Sanctuary,** Lee Co. (Gift of V. H. and Meta Osborn.) 640 acres of mangrove forests and islands along Hendry Creek; habitat for bald eagle, brown pelican, Florida manatee, American alligator, and nursery for several fish species. Managed by the Florida Chapter.

**Patricio Island,** Lee Co. 108 acres of mangrove swamp and marsh, edged on two sides by West Indian

## San Bernardino Ranch

"Texas" John Slaughter, famed sheriff and cattleman of the late 19th century, headquartered at Arizona's San Bernardino Ranch. But the area's natural values rival its history. Lying along the U.S.-Mexican border, 2,400 acres of desert and mesquite habitat hold an undisturbed portion of the largely altered Yaqui River System. With waters supporting two rare desert fishes, San Bernardino is of particular interest to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which has plans to reintroduce several other fish species (including the Yaqui shiner and the Mexican stone roller) that have virtually disappeared from southeastern Arizona.

hardwood hammock; habitat for numerous birds, eastern indigo snake, and gopher tortoise. Acquired in cooperation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion in Pine Island Sound National Wildlife Refuge.

**Walk-in-the-Water Creek (Weohyakapka) Nature Preserve,** Addition, Polk Co. (Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Newell.) 3-acre tract brings preserve size to 25 acres; wildlife in woodland along Weohyakapka Creek includes wading birds, wild turkey, fox, and otter. Managed by local volunteers.

### IDAHO

**Snake River Birds of Prey Natural Area,** Addition, Ada and Elmore Cos. A 127-acre inholding in the Bureau of Land Management natural area; extends protected habitat for 14 species of birds of prey, including the prairie falcon, golden eagle, and ferruginous hawk. Stewardship by a Conservancy-employed resident manager.

### ILLINOIS

**Braidwood Dunes and Savanna,** Will Co. 145 acres of black oak savanna, sand prairie, sedge meadow, and cattail marsh; largest and least disturbed natural area in the Kankakee Valley. Transferred to the Will County Forest Preserve District and managed by Olivet Nazarene College. See page 11.

**Camp Rotary MacQueen,** DeKalb Co. 46 acres on a bluff overlooking the Kishwaukee River; floodplain forest and bottomland with a wide variety of wildflowers. Transferred to the DeKalb County Forest Preserve District for management.

**Lyons Wet Prairie,** Addition, Lake Co. 72-acre inholding within the McHenry County Conservation District's Lyons Wet Prairie Natural Area, which contains over 50 species of wet prairie grasses (including one that is threatened) and flowering plants. Conveyed to the McHenry County Conservation District for management.

**Nelson Lake Marsh,** Kane Co. At 175 acres, one of the state's largest and finest alkaline marshes; vegetation includes fringed gentian, hoary willow, dwarf birch; sightings of osprey, American bittern, black-crowned night heron, and yellow-bellied sapsucker. Managed as a state nature preserve by the Kane County Forest Preserve District.

**Prairie Grouse Project,** Louis J. Lacey Sanctuary Addition, Marion Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Donnelley.) 80 acres of cultivated land, significant as habitat for the state endangered prairie grouse. Management continues (as it has under lease for ten years) by Prairie Grouse Committee of the Illinois Chapter with assistance from Illinois Natural History Survey.

**West Chicago Prairie,** DuPage Co. 154 acres of prairie, marsh, and savanna—largest natural area in the county; 350 plant species, including the federally endangered white lady's slipper orchid. Conveyed to the City of West Chicago and the DuPage County

## Great Cypress Swamp

1979 brought the Conservancy's first project in the nation's first state—539 acres of Delaware's Great Cypress Swamp. This gift of land from the Chesapeake Corporation of Virginia, a forest products concern, shelters one of the state's two active southern bald eagle nests. A healthy eaglet was hatched and raised in it during the year. Predominantly bald cypress (northernmost natural occurrence), oak, and red maple swampland, the tract also embraces 50 acres of upland woods with beech trees and loblolly pines.

Dubbed "Burnt Swamp" for the peat fire that raged above- and underground for eight months in 1930 (people as far away as Wilmington smelled the smoke), the land carries the headwaters of Maryland's "wild and scenic" Pocomoke River. Some ninety bird species, including the Swainson's warbler at the northern limit of its breeding range, flourish here in extreme southern Delaware. Celebrated far beyond the First State's borders, Great Cypress has been proposed for designation as a National Natural Landmark.

Forest Preserve District for management as a state nature preserve.

**INDIANA**

**German Methodist Cemetery Prairie,** Lake Co. Blanketed with plants native to black-soil prairies, a 1-acre remnant of the once-extensive northwestern Indiana prairie; grassland dominated by prairie dropseed, an indicator of virgin soil conditions. Managed by the Northwest Indiana Nature Conservancy, a committee of the Indiana Chapter.

**Moraine Preserve,** Henry George Hollingshead Addition, Porter Co. (Gift of Rosemary R. Aldrich.) 20 forested acres with divers ferns and wildflowers. Entire protected parcel, now 352 acres, transferred to Indiana Department of Natural Resources for management as a dedicated natural area.

**KANSAS**

**Konza Prairie,** Addition, Riley Co. 480 acres of dissected bluestem prairie containing headwaters of a prairie watershed; facilitates management of original 8,136-acre preserve, which is the responsibility of Kansas State University's Department of Biology. Konza project is part of the Ordway Prairie Reserve System.

**KENTUCKY**

**Dinsmore Woods,** Boone Co. (Gift of Martha Breasted, John Greenway, and Robert Ferguson.) 107 acres of mature hardwood forest. Leased to Northern Kentucky University.

**Kentucky River Palisades Preserve,** Woodford Co. (Gift of Mrs. W. R. Kirwan.) 24 acres with exposed cliff segments evidencing movement of the earth's crust; marine fossils from the ancient sea that covered this part of the state. Managed by the Kentucky Chapter.

**MAINE**

**Big White Island,** Knox Co. (Gift of Charles C. Cunningham Estate.) A second one-quarter undivided interest in this 25-acre island in Penobscot Bay; old spruce-fir forest, two active osprey nests. Managed by the Maine Chapter's Vinalhaven Stewardship Committee.

**Bradbury Island,** Addition, Hancock Co. (Gift of David P. Becker.) 54 acres extend Conservancy preserve on this steep-sided, wooded island in E. Penobscot Bay, notable for its large deer herd and osprey nests. Entire island presently managed by a stewardship committee of the Maine Chapter.

**Bureau of Public Lands Coastal Island Lease.** The Maine Chapter has leased 17 small islands and ledges from the Bureau of Public Lands of the Maine Department of Conservation for management in conjunction with a number of nearby Conservancy preserves. Managed by individual preserve committees of the Maine Chapter.

**East Plummer Island,** Washington Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Daigle.) 10-acre forested island (the eastern portion of what is one larger island at low tide) expanding Conservancy's Rachel Carson Seacoast; ideal habitat for small mammals and raptors. A conservation easement on East Plummer was donated by the Conservancy to the state's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, which will monitor its management.

## Braidwood Dunes and Savanna

Outbidding several land developers at an outdoor auction, representatives of the Conservancy's Illinois Chapter purchased the Kankakee Valley's finest natural area from Peabody Coal Company. Only 55 miles southwest of Chicago, Braidwood Dunes and Savanna was the Chapter's number one acquisition priority—with four distinct plant communities harboring more than 300 species of native flowering plants.

**Fernald's Neck,** Hattie Lamb Fernald Addition, Waldo Co. (Gift of Mrs. Margaretta W. Thurlow.) 30-acre addition to existing 285-acre Conservancy preserve; streams bisect property's sloping woodland. Managed by the Maine Chapter's Fernald's Neck Committee.

**Ship Island Group,** Hancock Co. (Includes gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Sohier Welch, Jr.) 24 acres on three islands in Blue Hill Bay—Bar, Trumpet, and Ship—that provide critical nesting habitat for the third largest concentration of eider ducks in Maine, the southern limit of their breeding range in North America. Acquisition and future stewardship of Trumpet Island funded by a grant from the William Anderson Foundation. See page 12.

**Shipstern Island,** Washington Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel S. French.) One-half undivided interest in a

# Ship Island Group

Eider ducks, double-crested cormorants, great black-backed gulls, herring gulls: each by the hundreds of breeding pairs. . . . These are reasons why the sea-bird nesting islands of Blue Hill Bay have warranted inclusion on the Maine Register of Critical Areas. In 1979 the Conservancy acquired land on three of the islands—Bar, Trumpet, and Ship—a scenic chain familiar to travellers and fishermen alike.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Ship Island Group (with the small island ledges to the south known as East and West Barge) supports Maine's, and the nation's, third largest nesting population of common eiders—the only nesting sea duck on the East Coast.

Widely hunted in the late 19th century for food and feathers, even during breeding season, Maine's eiders were reduced to a single nesting area by 1907. Since that time, their population has rebounded to some 20,000 pairs. But because of their marked vulnerability to disturbance, the ducks need protected land. The Conservancy's efforts to provide it include two gifts from Mr. and Mrs. E. Sohier Welch, Jr. (a 13-acre parcel on 40-acre Bar Island and a one-half undivided interest in 11-acre Ship), and the purchase of Trumpet, which measures 1 to 15 acres depending on the tide.

steep-cliffed 8-acre island near the Conservancy's Flint Island Preserve; contains old-growth stand of pure yellow birch, unusual to Maine islands, and a raptor nesting site.

**MARYLAND**

**Finzel Swamp,** Addition, Garret Co. 22-acre parcel extending the 285-acre preserve, a unique northern bog in a southern latitude; habitat for star-nosed mole and jumping mouse. Cooperatively managed by Maryland Chapter and Frostburg State College.

**Fishing Bay Wildlife Management Area,** Addition, Dorchester Co. (Gift of Sandy Island Ducking Club, Inc.) 387 acres of the state's best waterfowl marsh, prime resting and wintering area for diving ducks. To be transferred to Maryland Department of Natural Resources for addition to the wildlife area, as were 1,550 acres acquired here by the Conservancy in 1978.

**Janes Island,** Somerset Co. 38 forested acres dominated by loblolly pine, acquired for addition to Janes Island State Park. Conveyed to Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

**Mattawoman Creek,** Charles Co. 1,369 acres of swamp and floodplain forest west of Chesapeake Bay, supporting a bird community of extraordinary diversity and productivity. Acquired with Conservancy assistance by the State of Maryland for addition to Mattawoman Natural Environment Area.

**Otwell Woodland,** Talbot Co. (Gift of Mrs. John Jackson.) 100 acres of loblolly pine and old-growth oak-hickory forest bordered by Trippe Creek on one side. Managed by the Maryland Chapter.

**Potomac River Islands,** Zihlman's Island Addition, Allegany Co. 80-acre island of mixed hardwoods near Cumberland; habitat for upland game species. Transferred to Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

**Seneca Creek,** Addition, Montgomery Co. 371 acres of woodland, pastureland, and wetland; two tributaries cross property and feed into Seneca Creek. Transferred to state's Department of Natural Resources for inclusion in Seneca Creek State Park.

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge,** Middlesex Co. 66-acre property comprising a wooded hill and fields along the Sudbury River. Acquired in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as headquarters for the adjacent refuge.

**Halfway Pond,** Plymouth Co. (Gift of LeBaron R. Briggs, III.) 233 acres shielding Conservancy's Halfway Pond Island Preserve and providing access to the Pond itself. Property harbors a number of shorebirds and one rare plant species. To be conveyed to the Plymouth County Wildlands Trust for management.

**Mother Brook,** Suffolk Co. 6 acres of level grass-covered land and a steep stream bank edging a 560-foot segment of Mother Brook, which is fed by the Charles River. Acquired by The Fund for Preservation of Wildlife and Natural Areas with Conservancy assistance. To be transferred to the City of Boston for management by Boston Conservation Commission.

**Salisbury Marshes,** Essex Co. (Gift of Annie A. Spring and Ellen D. Pike.) Three parcels comprising 20 acres of tidal salt marsh north of the Merrimack River. To be transferred to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

### MICHIGAN

**Gooseneck Lake,** Mason Co. Two tracts totaling 330 acres within the Manistee National Forest; protects entire shoreline of Gooseneck Lake, clear waters surrounded by a shallow marsh that is prime nesting habitat for greater sandhill cranes. Transferred to U.S. Forest Service for management.

**Harbor Island,** Chippewa Co. 695-acre wildlife-rich forested island in Lake Huron's Potagannissing Bay; resting site for thousands of migratory ducks. Conservancy and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are working together on long-range management plan.

**Hawk Meadow Sanctuary,** Eaton Co. (Gift of Carl H. and Marian Haussman.) 80 acres of open space containing reverted old field ecosystems; to be transferred to Delta Township for administration by its Parks and Recreation Commission.

**Holloway Reservoir,** Additions, Genessee and Lapeer Cos. 14 acres extend protected woodland and water frontage managed by Genessee County Parks and Recreation Commission.

### MINNESOTA

**Chippewa Prairie,** Addition, Chippewa Co. 40 acres of tall- to mid-grass prairie extending habitat for reintroduced greater prairie chickens. This unit of the Ordway Prairie Reserve System now stands at 814 acres. Management by the Minnesota Chapter.

**Hole-in-the-Mountain Prairie,** Addition, Lincoln Co. 90 acres with a deep ravine, and most of the headwaters for the prairie's main ravine, bring preserve to 190 acres; habitat for three uncommon skipper butterfly species. Managed by Minnesota Chapter.

**Minnesota Prairie Chicken Preserve System,** Anna Gronseth Prairie Addition, Wilkin Co. 80 acres of low, wet, slightly alkaline tall-grass prairie expanding protected habitat for the greater prairie chicken. Preserve area now stands at 840 acres. Managed by Minnesota Chapter.

**Morgan Woods,** Addition, Washington Co. (Gift of Samuel H. and Natalie P. Morgan.) 20 acres enlarge existing preserve of rugged, rolling deciduous woodland with prairie openings. Transferred to Science Museum of Minnesota for administration by the Lee and Rose Warner Nature Center.

**North Star Lake,** Itasca Co. 24-acre inholding in Chippewa National Forest with active bald eagle nests. Management by the U.S. Forest Service as part of its Bald Eagle Territory.

**Partch Woods,** Addition, Stearns Co. (Gift of Max and Frances Partch.) 4 acres of woodland providing access to the 80-acre preserve; tract embraces a mature maple-basswood forest, rare in this part of the state. Cooperative management by the Minnesota Chapter and the state's Department of Natural Resources.

## Pine Butte Swamp

Pine Butte Swamp, Montana, is a wildlife bonzana: golden eagle, grizzly, sandhill crane, lynx, bobcat, cougar, gray wolf, beaver, mink, moose, snow goose, mountain goat, elk—The list is long in this land of spring-fed creeks and enormous beaver ponds, "buffalo" jumps and pines. To date, the Conservancy has acquired nearly 7,000 acres here among the Rockies, where a high butte overlooks brushland and the only plains swamp habitat of its kind in the contiguous United States. The Conservancy's fundraising goal for the project is $4 million; but its protection goal is even more impressive—40,000 acres of wild country along the Teton River, of which one fifth has already been saved.

**Regal Meadow,** Kandiyohi Co. 80 acres of level fen-like prairie, remarkable for its flourishing numbers of small white lady's slipper orchids. Minnesota Chapter has management responsibility.

**Sandhill Crane Meadows,** Addition, Morrison Co. 20 acres of marshy meadow expanding the 160-acre preserve eastward; supplementary nesting habitat for the greater sandhill crane. Cooperatively managed by the Minnesota Chapter and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

**Susie Island,** Additions, Cook Co. (Gift of Lloyd K. Johnson.) 7 acres in three parcels—including a small, rocky island—extend the 55-acre Susie Island Preserve in Lake Superior, ecologically significant for the presence of relict arctic plant species. Managed by the Minnesota Chapter.

**Tettegouche,** Lake Co. 3,400-acre forested expanse embracing the shorelines of four wilderness lakes; animal life includes black bear, timber wolf, and moose. Sought as a state park since early 60's. Transferred to Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

**Trout Lily Preserve,** Rice Co. 27 acres protecting north-facing slopes and floodplain flats with largest known concentration (110 colonies) of dwarf trout lily, a Minnesota endemic plant species. Managed by the Minnesota Chapter.

## Pascagoula Hardwood Lands

It was 1973 when the name "Pascagoula" first arrested the Conservancy's attention. Within three years, 32,000 of the natural area's 42,000 acres—matchless bottomland hardwood forests and wetlands along Mississippi's meandering Pascagoula River—had been acquired and transferred to the state's Wildlife Heritage Committee for management. In 1979 "Pascagoula" sounded once again at the Conservancy, as an additional 3,000 acres were acquired for purchase by the state.

### MISSISSIPPI

**Mississippi Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge,** Addition, Jackson Co. (Gift of International Paper Company.) 26 acres of coastal plain augment protected habitat for federally endangered Mississippi sandhill crane. Transferred to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**Pascagoula Hardwood Lands,** Addition, Jackson and George Cos. 3,000-acre addition to the 32,000-acre Pascagoula Wildlife Management Area, acquired by the state with Conservancy assistance as part of the Mississippi Natural Heritage Program; addition includes frontage on two creeks and inholdings along the meandering Pascagoula River. Management by the Mississippi Wildlife Heritage Committee. See box below.

### MISSOURI

**Buford Mountain Preserve,** Additions, Iron Co. 90 acres in two parcels extend the preserve, recognized as outstanding by the state-sponsored Natural Area Survey, to 2,347 acres; oak-hickory forest with diverse understory. Cooperatively managed by Missouri Chapter and state Department of Natural Resources.

**Missouri Prairie State Park,** Addition, Barton Co. Rolling 560-acre tract containing the finest prairie land in the state; vigorous stands of native grasses cover the area, home to prairie chicken and upland sandpipers. Transferred to state Department of Natural Resources.

**Victoria Glade,** Jefferson Co. 249 acres of oak-hickory forest and cedar glade; only protected example of an eastern Missouri glade community—bearing 12 native grasses and 75 wildflower and forb species. To be transferred to Missouri Department of Natural Resources for management.

### MONTANA

**Blackfoot River,** Addition, Missoula Co. (Gift of Bill Davis.) Conservation easement protecting 80 acres of mixed forest dominated by ponderosa pine; habitat for white-tail deer, mule deer, elk, beaver, osprey, mountain lion, and raptors. Part of the Conservancy's Blackfoot River Corridor Project.

**Pine Butte Swamp Preserve,** Addition, Teton Co. 2,200 acres adjacent to Bob Marshall Wilderness; habitat for numerous species including plains grizzly bear, elk, moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, black bear, bobcat, cougar, golden eagle, and sandhill crane. With 4,586 acres acquired by the Conservancy here in 1978, preserve acreage stands at 6,786. See page 13.

**Poindexter Slough,** Beaverhead Co. 448 acres of flat river bottom protecting one of the state's most productive spring-fed creeks. Brown, rainbow, and brook trout; sandhill cranes and red-tailed hawks. Conveyed to Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department for management.

# Thousand Acre Swamp

Thousand Acre Swamp is a remnant of the Ice Age just seven miles east of Rochester, New York. Fearing ten years would destroy what was 10,000 in the making, the Conservancy took action to protect the Swamp from encroaching development. Seeded by a 52-acre gift in 1971 from the estate of landscape architect Fletcher Steele, an assemblage of protected lands has been growing steadily through the decade. From cattail marsh and swamp to dry, stony upland forest, Thousand Acre Swamp boasts more than 450 plant and 50 animal species, including flying squirrel, white-tailed deer, and coyote. With the addition of a key parcel in 1979, the preserve—which is used increasingly for educational purposes—now embraces some 145 acres. But given the potential for future acquisitions here, the Western New York Chapter's Thousand Acre Swamp Preservation Committee has its work cut out for the eighties.

**Rock Point Ranch,** Madison Co. (Gift of Kenneth F. and Judith Ann Siebel, Bruce G. and Elizabeth Potter, and Robert S. Colman.) Conservation easement on 800 acres of representative cottonwood forest, important for its blue heron rookery and osprey nesting grounds.

**Schnaus Property,** Flathead Co. (Gift of Irene Schnaus.) 60 acres on the Flathead River (within the wild and scenic designation of the North Fork) near Glacier National Park; part of a rugged wild area critical to the survival of grizzly bears, bald eagles, and gray wolves. Charted for conveyance to the U.S. Forest Service.

**TBM Ranch,** Powell Co. 1,250 acres of native grasslands and cottonwood-pine forest bordering the Blackfoot River; mink, bobcat, coyote, elk, sandhill cranes, teeming fish populations. Acquired by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department with Conservancy assistance.

**Toussaint Ranch,** Deer Lodge County (Gift of G. Jon Roush.) Conservation easement protecting 520 acres in foothills of Mt. Evans and Mt. Howe: lodgepole pine and quaking aspen forests, grasslands, willow wetlands. Sightings of rare Northern Rocky Mountain wolf, sandhill crane, elk, moose, black bear, otter, Canada lynx, and other species.

**Wildhorse Island,** Addition, Lake Co. A half-acre lot on the perimeter of the 2,166-acre island preserve in Flathead Lake, protected in 1977 in cooperative effort with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department.

### NEBRASKA

**Platte River-Mormon Island Preserve,** Hall Co. 1,902 acres with some of the Platte's finest wet prairie meadows, open channels, shallow sandbars—key habitat for the federally endangered whooping crane and critical migration site for millions of other birds. Protected in cooperation with the Platte River Whooping Crane Critical Habitat Maintenance Trust, which owns the property and leases it to the Conservancy for management. See page 17.

### NEVADA

**Big Spring Desert Pupfish Sanctuary,** Addition, Nye Co. 317 acres east of Death Valley National Monument; contains warm-water stream with healthy population of endangered desert pupfish; endemic and endangered plant species. Transferred to the Bureau of Land Management for incorporation in its Ash Meadows Natural Area.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Plainfield Sanctuary,** Sullivan Co. (Gift of Charles M. Sherover.) 44 acres, east of the Connecticut River, abutting the New England Wildflower Society's Plainfield Sanctuary. To be administered by the Society as an educational and botanical study area.

**White Mountain National Forest (Elbow Pond),** Grafton Co. 345-acre inholding, primarily wooded, with a large pond and some swampland; habitat for moose and black bear. Acquired in cooperation with U.S. Forest Service for inclusion in the national forest.

### NEW MEXICO

**Mount Taylor Natural Area,** Valencia Co. 670 acres of rugged, mountainous woodland bisected by a sharp

canyon containing a perennial spring-fed creek; wildlife includes elk, grouse, bobcat, mountain lion, golden eagle, and one of the state's largest beaver populations. Transferred to the University of New Mexico for biological study and research; a life estate is maintained by the property donors, who wish to remain anonymous.

**Gila National Forest,** Addition, Grant Co. 117 acres in the Turkey Creek-Gila River confluence area adjoining the southwest corner of the Gila Wilderness; more than half of all bird species found in the state nest or have been sighted here; breeding area for several uncommon fish species. To be transferred to the U.S. Forest Service.

**San Andres National Wildlife Refuge,** Dona Ana Co. 2-acre lot acquired as headquarters for the refuge, which is excellent habitat for bighorn sheep. Transferred to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

## NEW YORK

**Accabonac Harbor,** Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Gollay.) Important 7-acre addition to local assemblage of protected lands; lies between the salty waters of the harbor and the freshwater bog inland to the south (of which the Conservancy's Cranberry Marsh is part). Conservancy-protected acreage in the area now totals 96. Management by the South Fork-Shelter Island Chapter.

**Brandon/Bay Pond Parks,** Franklin Co. (Gift of Elsie R. McMillin, Frederic L. Rockefeller, and William Rockefeller.) Conservation easement on 21,383-acre Bay Pond, through which the west branch of the St. Regis, a designated scenic river, flows. With adjacent Brandon Park easement, donated in 1978, 48,500 acres of Adirondack wildlife habitat now have Conservancy protection. Further gift of 10-acre "anchor" parcel for easement.

**Griffith Preserve,** Addition, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Eleanor B. Griffith.) 2 acres enlarge preserve area, wild remnant of Long Island's south shore characterized by upland hardwood forest and tidal marsh. Preserve, now some 13 acres, managed by Long Island Chapter.

**Headlands,** Essex Co. (Gift of Marian deForest Stewart.) 595-acre conservation easement embracing more than 4,000 feet of undeveloped shoreline on Lake Champlain; first project in an assemblage proposed by Adirondack Conservancy Committee with Lake Champlain Committee and New York Department of Natural Resources. Further gifts from easement donor of 5-acre "anchor" parcel and funds for easement monitoring.

**Limestone Rise,** Addition, Albany Co. (Gift of Earl M. Bucci.) 31 acres on northern end enhance the 32-acre

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## Platte River

Migration is still the greatest show on earth. Early each spring, since prehistoric times, million of ducks, geese, cranes—migratory waterfowl of every description—have visited Nebraska's Platte River. Here they restore themselves before continuing the journey north to summer breeding grounds.

Combined efforts of the Conservancy and the Platte River Whooping Crane Critical Habitat Maintenance Trust have ensured protection for a wild portion of the Platte: nearly 2,000 acres on Mormon Island, used more heavily by the migrating birds (particularly sandhill cranes) than any other area in the vicinity.

The Trust resulted from the settlement of two law suits concerning environmental threats to the Platte River habitat and is jointly administered by representatives of the state, the National Wildlife Federation, and the Basin Electric Power Cooperative. During the next two years, the Conservancy will conduct extensive inventory work on the island and design a comprehensive plan for its future management.

preserve with contrasting biotic and geologic features—including swamp habitat, unusual ice-moulded east-west ridges, and two state-protected plant species. Eastern New York Chapter will manage.

**Long Beach Bay,** Suffolk Co. (Gift of Richard H. Margolin.) 28-acre salt marsh with a sandy beach on the Long Island Sound side; supports a pair of nesting osprey that produced two young in 1979; also habitat for divers mollusks, turtles, and mammals. Managed by the Long Island Chapter.

**Matheson Meadows,** Suffolk Co. (Gift of Henry and Ardis S. Wingate.) One fifth of an acre, addition to 39-acre preserve of open meadows surrounded by trees, just west of Caumsett State Park. Managed by the Long Island Chapter.

**McGregor Pond Preserve,** Addition, Westchester Co. (Gift of Reubin Seldin.) 10-acre addition to 19-acre Conservancy assemblage that includes a pond and red maple swampland; managed by the Lower Hudson Chapter.

**Mianus River Gorge,** Addition, Westchester Co. (Gift of Robert E. and Dorothy C. Burbank.) 2 acres of gently rolling land crossed by a stream connecting a pond and the Mianus River; Conservancy's second oldest preserve now covers 376 acres. Managed by Mianus River Gorge Committee.

**Thousand Acre Swamp,** Addition, Monroe Co. 25-acre parcel linking two Conservancy-owned tracts and providing unbroken access across all Conservancy holdings in the area (now some 145 acres); habitat for the locally rare Massasauga rattlesnake. Managed by the Thousand Acre Swamp Committee of the Western New York Chapter. See page 15.

**Wading River Marsh Preserve,** Addition, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Dorothy C. Kempf.) 14 acres of heavily wooded land along southern and eastern edges of the tidal marsh. Preserve, now 77 acres, managed by Long Island Chapter.

**David Weld Sanctuary,** Additions, Suffolk Co. (Gifts of Mrs. David B. Weld and Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Miller.) Two tracts totaling 27 acres provide buffer to this sanctuary of dunes, beach, and freshwater marsh. Managed by Long Island Chapter.

**Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge,** Additions, Suffolk Co. 161 acres in three parcels enlarge refuge, a high-concentration waterfowl habitat that also supports some 20 varieties of warblers. Acquired in cooperation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

### NORTH CAROLINA

**Merchant Mill Pond,** Additions, Gates Co. 212 acres (including 75-acre gift of A. B. Coleman); wildlife corridor connecting Chowan Swamp, Merchant Mill Pond State Park and Dismal Swamp; least bittern, red-shouldered hawk, and federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker have been observed; four species of rare aquatic plants. To be transferred to the state's Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

**Nags Head Woods,** Dare Co. (Includes gifts of John and Rhoda Calfee and Diane St. Clair.) Acquisitions totaling 223 acres at the biological core of a unique ecosystem lodged among the back barrier dunes of North Carolina's Outer Banks. Stewardship directed by a professional Conservancy preserve manager. See page 18.

**Weymouth Woods,** Monroe Co. 191-acre property containing state's last major old-growth stand of long-leaf pine; nesting site for three colonies of endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers. House and grounds conveyed to Friends of Weymouth, an historic preservation group, with remaining land transferred to state's Department of Natural Resources and Community Development for addition to Weymouth Woods Nature Preserve.

### OHIO

**Abner Hollow,** Addition, Adams Co. 222 acres acquired as part of Conservancy efforts to link Edge of Appalachia Preserve System, owned by Cincinnati Museum of Natural History. Preserve system is noted for occurrences of Indiana bat and green salamander as well as its steep gorges, artesian springs, wildflowers, and untouched hardwood forests. To be managed by the Museum.

**Compass Plant Prairie,** Lawrence Co. 16 acres containing the only known state location for the compass plant, disjunct by some 150 miles from its normal range; area supports numerous other prairie species

including big bluestem, dropseed, and ladies tresses. Currently managed by Ohio Chapter

**Frame Bog Preserve,** Addition, Portage Co. 31 acres, open field buffer with some woods, dissected by Tinkers Creek. Existing preserve is a glacial fen with relict northern flora. Managed by the Ohio Chapter.

**Glen Helen,** Addition, Greene Co. Half-acre inholding in Glen Helen Natural Area on the floodplain and shore of the Little Miami, a national scenic river. Administered by Antioch University.

**Springville Marsh,** Seneca Co. 200 acres, one of the largest marsh remnants in the till-plain section of western Ohio, supporting five biotic community types, associated birds, wildlife, and six state-listed plant species. To be transferred to the state's Department of Natural Resources and dedicated as a state nature preserve.

**OREGON**

**Bear Valley Eagles,** Addition, Klamath Co. 679 acres of buffer for area containing densest American bald eagle wintering population in continental U.S. To be transferred to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion in Bear Valley Eagle National Wildlife Refuge.

## Nags Head Woods

Nags Head Woods, North Carolina: a seamless natural system—freshwater ponds, deciduous forest, marshlands, swamps, and dunes—with a crazy-quilt ownership pattern. In 1979 the Conservancy made significant headway here on Roanoke Sound, acquiring five contiguous parcels at the biological heartland of the Woods.

**Fremont National Forest,** Lake Co. 2,100 acres embracing Dog Lake, a 400-acre expanse of water surrounded by a freshwater marsh; area's herb-grass meadows and mixed forests are frequented by osprey, snowy egrets, and western grebes. To be conveyed to U.S. Forest Service for addition to the national forest.

**Lower Table Rock/Kelly Slough,** Jackson Co. Three acquisitions totaling 957 acres protect Lower Table Rock—wildlife-rich mesa supporting more than 86 plants species (including one endangered endemic and one threatened)—and Kelly Slough, bayou-like maze of channels and sloughs providing habitat for northern bald eagle, American osprey, and great blue heron. 207-acre Slough area to be transferred to Jackson County Parks Department for inclusion in Bear Creek Greenway Project. See page 19.

**Metolious River Preserve,** Jefferson Co. (Gift of Erskine B. Wood in honor of his father Erskine Wood.) 9 acres surrounded on three sides by U.S. Forest Service land. Tract includes a high-elevation sedge and willow swamp and fronts a clear spring-fed river that holds a pristine island. Managed by a local Conservancy stewardship committee.

**Minto Island,** Marion Co. (Gift of Boise Cascade Corp.) 22 acres on an island in the Williamette River, at the center of Salem (town of some 70,000); an established great blue heron rookery with 15 nests, the area also supports a great horned owl nest. Donated to Salem Audubon Society for management as a bird sanctuary.

**Nesika Beach,** Curry Co. (Gift of Cynthia and Irving Lord.) 36 acres of coastal bluff and headland overlooking the Pacific; contains grand fir-spruce forest unusual for southern Oregon coast; a top acquisition priority of the state's Natural Heritage Program. Stewardship directed by Oregon Chapter in conjunction with a preserve management committee.

**North Pine Creek,** Baker Co. 323 acres of wooded, mountainous terrain and open grassland along trout-rich North Pine Creek, acquired in two parcels. Transfer of first tract, inholding in Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, and west half of second tract to U.S. Forest Service for inclusion in Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area.

**Toe Island,** Multnomah Co. (Gift of Ross Island Sand and Gravel Company.) Unaltered one-acre island in the Willamette River. To be conveyed to the City of Portland as part of a four-island transfer.

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**Lacawac Sanctuary,** Henry Van Deusen, Jr., Addition, Wayne Co. 18 acres adjacent to existing preserve, which contains a 50-acre lake considered to be the southernmost unpolluted glacial lake on the continent. Managed by Lacawac Sanctuary Committee and Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter.

**Weir's Pond,** Susquehanna Co. (Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Shelly.) 60-acre tract launching Conservancy efforts to protect the Weir's Pond/Krall's Bog area; wide variety of bog species and unusual overall mix of vegetation associations. Managed by Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter.

## Lower Table Rock

No wonder the Rogue River Indians used Lower Table Rock as a sacred space for ceremonies. Some 750 acres of the mesa's wild country—talus slopes, vernal pools, oak woodlands—and 200 acres of productive wetlands southwest of its base were brought under Conservancy protection in 1979.

### RHODE ISLAND

**Clay Head,** Addition, Washington Co. 32-acre tract on northeastern shore of Block Island; provides public access to 145-acre Lapham easement and Clay Head Cliffs; 6-acre swamp and pond complex are used as feeding area by black-crowned night herons and other birds. Transferred to Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.

### TENNESSEE

**Bordeaux Heron Rookery,** Davidson Co. 6 acres in Nashville, used as a rookery by black-crowned night herons since 1908; currently sustains 50 nests. Transferred to Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency for management.

**Jess Jenkins Cranberry Bog,** Johnson Co. One-quarter acre remnant of the bog vegetation that formerly occupied the bottoms of Shady Valley; supports two rare plants. Conveyed to East Tennessee State University for management.

**Radnor Lake,** Davidson Co. Lying within Nashville's city limits, a 133-acre addition to Radnor Lake State Natural Area, protecting essential watershed for the lake. Managed by Tennessee Department of Conservation.

**Reelfoot Lake,** Obion Co. 43 acres of critical buffer for Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge, habitat for the nationally endangered bald eagle and wintering area for more than 242 bird species. Leased to and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

### TEXAS

**Richard Albert Brushland,** Duval Co. (Gift of Richard O. Albert.) An 8 percent undivided interest in 683 acres of essentially undisturbed south Texas brush country; supports several plant species of special scientific interest and an extraordinary diversity of brushland vegetation (over 100 species).

**Roy E. Larsen Sandyland Sanctuary,** Addition, Hardin Co. (Gift of Gulf State Utilities Co.) 40-acre right-of-way cutting across all four of the sanctuary's communities (forests, baygall, successional lakes, sandyland), and harboring several rare plants. The 2,178-acre preserve is managed by the Conservancy's Sandyland Preserve steward.

**McFaddin Ranch,** Jefferson Co. 42,102 acres of coastal prairie and brackish marshlands on the Texas Gulf Coast; key feeding and wintering area for waterfowl on the continent's Central Flyway; habitat for 13 threatened or endangered animal species. 41,682-acre acquisition and 420-acre conservation easement obtained in cooperation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for national wildlife refuge management. See page 20.

### VERMONT

**Bicentennial Cobble,** Rutland Co. (Gift of Elsa Potter, Henry Potter, and Alan Burr.) 32 acres encompassing

a wooded limestone hill and a small swampy area where some 40 species of ferns and fern allies thrive. Transferred to Vermont State Colleges for management as a scientific and educational area.

**Howe Pond,** Bennington Co. and **West River,** Windham Co. 629 acres on the West River Greenway, transferred to the state as an addition to Jamaica State Park in exchange for some 594 wooded acres and a large pond in Howe Pond State Park. Pond area donated by the Conservancy to the Village of Readsboro. Transaction funded by sale to U.S. Forest Service of a 4,000-acre gift of Henry F. Harris.

**Franklin Bog,** Addition, Franklin Co. (Gift of Harland G. and Ruth E. Titemore.) 40 acres bringing Conservancy ownership of the national natural landmark to 122 acres; assembly of 150 acres is planned to protect numerous species of bog flora such as pitcher plants, bog orchids, and sheep laurel. Managed by the Vermont Chapter.

**Mount Mansfield Park,** Lamoille Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Clarke S. Lyon.) 32-acre hardwood forestland abutting recently acquired Burt Forest; provides needed access to hiking trails on Stowe Pinnacle. Acquisition includes right-of-way to the nearest town road. Managed by Vermont Chapter.

**Prentiss Pond,** Bennington Co. (Gift of Bernice West Beyers.) 10 acres with a small man-made pond surrounded by boggy meadowland, marsh, wooded swamp, and mixed hardwoods. To be transferred to Dorset Sportsmen's Club for management as a fishing area.

**VIRGINIA**

**Kankakee Mallow Preserve,** Botetourt Co. A third of an acre in two strips along a railroad track, significant as one of four known sites in the nation supporting the endangered Kankakee mallow. Leased from Chessie Resources, Inc., by the Virginia Chapter.

**Virginia Coast Reserve,** Additions, Accomack Co. (Gifts of Larry C. Hammack and Karol K. and Reynold Rodriguez.) Beachfront inholdings totaling three acres on the Atlantic Ocean side of Cedar Island. (The 13-island V.C.R. was recently named an international biosphere reserve by the United Nations.)

**WASHINGTON**

**Little Spokane River Park Corridor,** Addition, Spokane Co. 32 acres shielding Little Spokane River Park, which encompasses a great blue heron rookery and supports painted turtles, spotted frogs, and several bird species (including golden eagles). To be transferred to the county for management.

**Lookout Mountain,** Kittitas Co. (Gift of George and Natus Fahey, Paul and Helen Kirk.) 480-acre conservation easement safeguards unusual transition zone between conifer forests and sagebrush scablands; oc-

## McFaddin Ranch

After two and a half years of negotiations, the Conservancy gained protection for 42,000 acres of prime marshland on the Texas Gulf Coast—habitat for the brown pelican, American alligator, red wolf, and several other threatened or endangered species. McFaddin Ranch, charted for inclusion in Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, along with Sea Rim Marsh, a 1978 Conservancy project.

currences of two plants proposed for federal protection. A further gift from easement donors to finance monitoring.

**Sentinel Island,** San Juan Co. 16-acre island in San Juan archipelago, its rocky shores bordering exposed grasslands and mixed forest; wildlife includes harbor seals, river otters, and nesting bald eagles. Washington Field Office, which is fund raising for acquisition of nearby Yellow Island, has management responsibility.

### WEST VIRGINIA

**Monongahela National Forest,** Randolph Co. 151 acres supporting several rare or threatened natural elements, including beaked dodder, coneflower, northern flying squirrel, and rock vole. Transferred to U.S. Forest Service.

### WISCONSIN

**Genesee Oak Opening,** Waukesha Co. 51-acre tract containing exemplary burr oak savanna plant community. Pickerel frogs and Blanding's turtles, two state-endangered species, inhabit stream and marsh along property's edges. Transferred to state Department of Natural Resources.

**Hemlock Draw,** Addition, Sauk Co. 40 acres of xeric forest critical to protecting watershed of existing 540-acre preserve; contains several northern forest types rare in southern Wisconsin, including trailing arbutus. Managed by Wisconsin Chapter's stewardship committee.

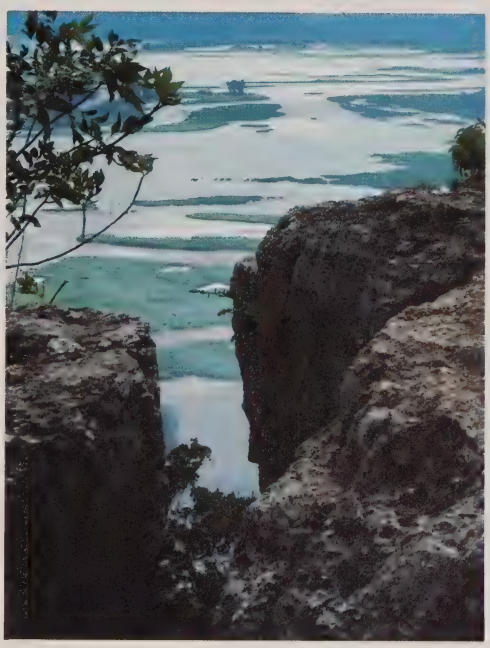
**Kurtz Woods,** Ozaukee Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kurtz and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Kurtz.) 31 acres of high-quality beech-maple forest. To be managed as a Conservancy preserve under the direction of the Wisconsin Chapter's stewardship committee in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin Field Station at Cedarburg.

**Namakagon Preserve,** Bayfield Co. 40 acres of upland hardwood forest shielding the Forest Lodge nature trail. Acquisition funded by Mary Livingston Griggs and Mary Griggs Burke Foundation. Transferred to the Cable Natural History Museum for management.

**Renak-Polak Woods,** Addition, Racine Co. 13 acres of woods and cropland shielding the Woods, one of two remaining beech-maple climax forests in southeastern Wisconsin; contains two rare plant species. Managed by the University of Wisconsin, Parkside, for teaching and research.

**Rush Creek Bluffs,** Crawford Co. 1,020 acres of forest, prairie, trout stream, bottomland, and sandstone cliffs bordered on the west by more than two miles of rugged Mississippi River bluff land; provides nesting and hunting habitat for state-threatened red-shouldered hawks. Highest priority acquisition identified by the state Department of Natural Resource's Scientific Area Preservation Council. See box above.

**Arthur and Albena Snapper Memorial Prairie,** Jefferson Co. 30-acre tract acquired with funds from Joan Heymann and Arthur Snapper, Jr.; virgin prairie harboring white lady's slipper orchid, prairie milkweed, and other state-protected plants. Managed by a committee of the Wisconsin Chapter.



## Rush Creek Bluffs

From spectacular limestone bluffs to dry hillside prairies and floodplain forests—Wisconsin's Rush Creek Bluffs is a showcase of natural-area types along the Upper Mississippi River. In a region threatened by increasing second-home development and other construction, this expanse exhibits natural conditions that approach those of pre-settlement days. The Conservancy attained protection for more than 1,000 acres here in the southwestern corner of the state during 1979.

**University of Wisconsin Arboretum,** Dane Co. 13 acres containing a deep peat layer with soggy fen-like areas of mixed prairie and sedge meadow plants; several ponds. Acquired for conveyance to the University of Wisconsin.

### WYOMING

**Jackson Hole Project (Crane Creek Ranch),** Teton Co. (Gift of John and Gloria Morgan.) Conservation easement protecting 45 acres adjacent to the Snake River, a major migration route for mammals and birds; property lies on a rich floodplain bisected by spring-fed creeks.

**Shoshone National Forest,** Park Co. 200 acres in the Sunlight Basin, consisting of a moraine, pilgrim limestone bench, and a montane forest sloping down to a broad alpine valley; elk habitat for a wintering herd of some 100 animals. The Conservancy acquired the land and conveyed it to the U.S. Forest Service.

# RESOURCES FOR ACTION

The Conservancy's effectiveness in preserving natural lands is dependent upon its two primary resources: people and funds.

People—the Conservancy's members, volunteers, board, and staff—are a vital resource for meeting the challenge of land conservation. Because of these people, the Conservancy has been successful in actively searching out, acquiring, and safeguarding hundreds of natural areas. More than 4,000 volunteers give their time and effort in managing over 670 Conservancy-owned preserves. Hundreds of volunteers serve important roles as active chapter members, officers, and trustees. Others, by renewing their annual memberships or becoming life members, affirm their commitment to the Conservancy's goals and programs. Moreover, donations from members responding to special appeals throughout the year are remarkable in both quantity and value.

The Conservancy's second resource, funds, balances the organization's membership and volunteer resources in making Conservancy programs a reality. The funds described here were created to save land. They are a straightforward financial expression of the Conservancy's commitment to the preservation of natural diversity. Each fund has a specific purpose and each is a vital part of the land preservation equation. The funds, together with the support and participation of members and volunteers, make it possible for the Conservancy to develop an increasingly effective national program for land conservation.

**The Land Preservation Fund**

At the close of 1978, the Land Preservation Fund stood at $18.6 million; by the September 1979 Annual Meeting, the $20 million goal for the fund had been met; and by December, the Board of Governors learned that the fund would total $23 million at year-end. Members, as well as foundation and corporate friends, responded overwhelmingly and generously to appeals for support. The Land Preservation Fund represents the most ambitious and successful appeal ever carried out by a conservation organization. It provides the necessary solid base for financing land acquisitions during the 1980's.

**The Guarantee & Income Fund**

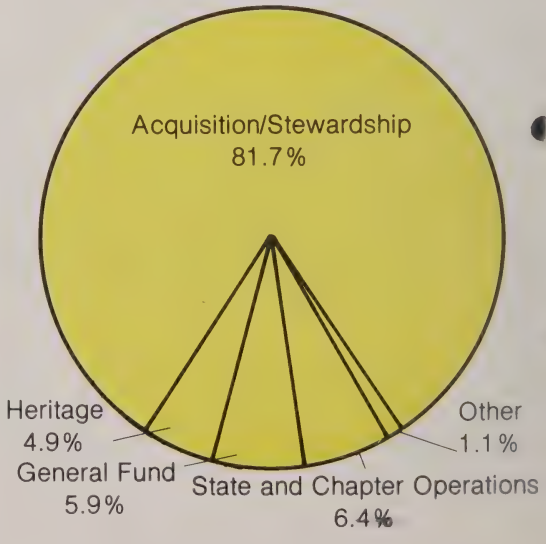
A basic endowment fund, the Conservancy's Guarantee & Income Fund now stands at approximately $3.5 million. Income and principal from the fund can be used for any expenditures, at the discretion of the Board of Governors. The Guarantee and Income Fund is augmented by the addition of life membership dues and, from time to time, by the excess of revenues over expenses at the end of a fiscal year.

**The General Fund**

Most organizations have had difficulty maintaining vital funding for day-to-day operations while seeking support for a major capital campaign such as the Conservancy's Land Preservation Fund. However, the Conservancy was fortunate: by year end, receipts for the General Fund had risen 45 percent over the previous year. During 1979 some 10,600 members made gifts to the General Fund over and above their membership dues or project donations.

In 1979 the Conservancy received 338 separate foundation grants, an increase of 10 percent from the previous year. Corporate Associate contributions grew by 36 percent—associates numbered 272 by year's end. The Conservancy also saw a rise of around 20 percent in overall

**Foundation Contributions to The Nature Conservancy for 1979**



contributions received in 1979, and by the end of the year 87,694 gifts totaling close to $17.5 million (this includes restricted as well as General Fund gifts) were donated to land conservation programs.

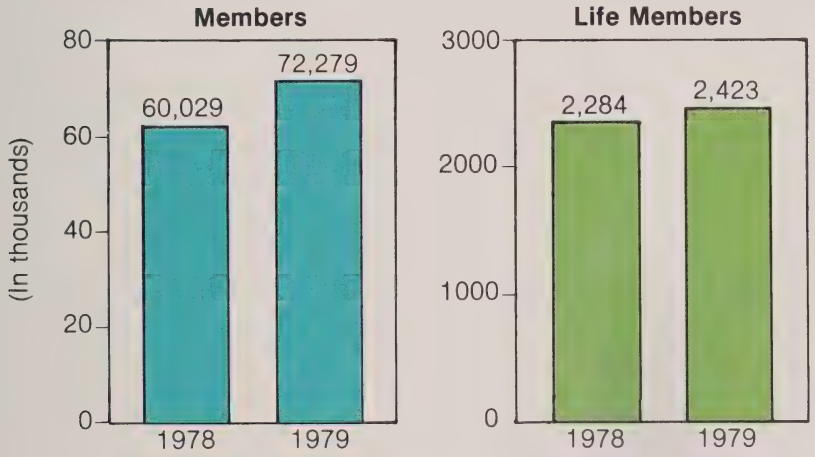
Total operating revenues for the year ending December 31, 1979, were $6,155,185. The revenues exceeded total operating expenses by $1,475,090, a difference resulting primarily from an unusually large increase in interest revenue earned on short-term investments of temporary cash reserves. At its February 1980 meeting, the Conservancy's Board of Governors directed that this excess revenue be distributed as follows: $825,000 to the Guarantee & Income Fund; $200,000 to the Rodney Johnson Natural Area Endowment Fund; $200,000 to the Land Preservation Fund; and $250,000 to fund an expansion of the Conservancy's program to recruit new members.

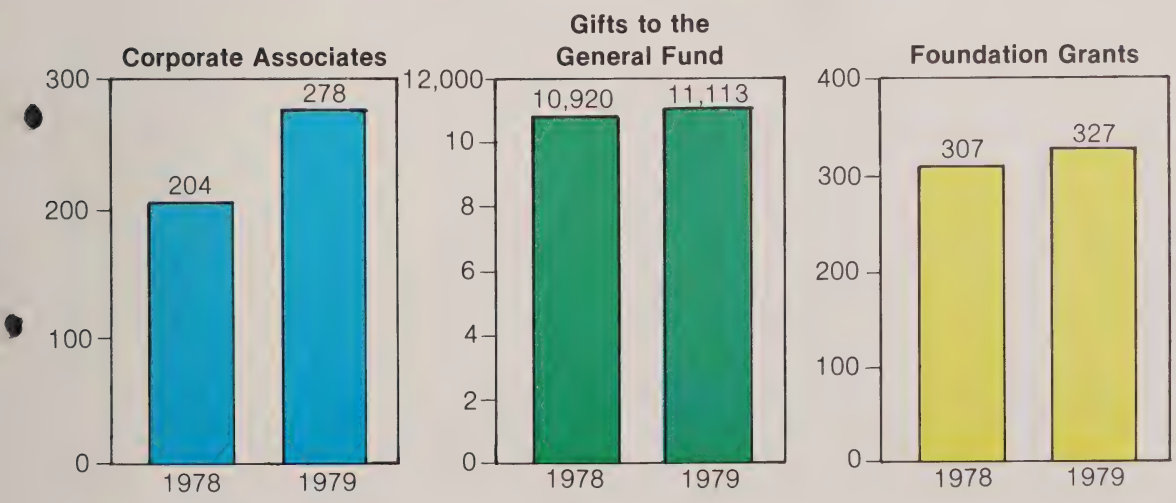
The Conservancy has reached or surpassed its fund-raising goals for various reasons, though a major one is annual support from members. Our membership renewal rate stands at 83 percent—a level indicating that overall growth will continue and that the 1980's look very bright.

**Planned Giving**

During 1979 the Conservancy received $825,000 in bequests toward the Land Preservation Fund. The gifts indicate the importance of providing information concerning the different ways in which members can support Conservancy efforts. To date, around 160 individuals have listed the Conservancy in their wills as either a partial or primary beneficiary. Information on bequests and innovative deferred gifts that can be made during the donor's lifetime is available from the Conservancy's national office.

**Comparison of Numerical Highlights — 1978–1979**



# Auditors' Report

Board of Governors
The Nature Conservancy
Arlington, Virginia

Gentlemen:

We have examined the balance sheet of The Nature Conservancy as of December 31, 1979 and December 31, 1978, and the related statements of operations and changes in fund balances, and changes in financial position for the years then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly the financial position of The Nature Conservancy as of December 31, 1979 and December 31, 1978, the changes in its fund balances, the results of its operations, and changes in financial position for the years then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Becker, Weinstein & Kaufman

BECKER, WEINSTEIN & KAUFMAN
Certified Public Accountants
Washington, D.C.

April 22, 1980

# Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 1979
(With Comparative Totals for December 31, 1978)
(In Thousands of Dollars)

| | Land Acquisition Fund | Operating Funds | Endowment Funds | Total Funds 1979 | Total Funds 1978 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ASSETS** | | | | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS: | | | | | |
| Cash and Short-Term Investments (Note 1) | $ 7,520 | $3,773 | $1,219 | $ 12,512 | $ 4,510 |
| Other | 13 | 197 | | 210 | 103 |
| Total Current Assets | 7,533 | 3,970 | 1,219 | 12,722 | 4,613 |
| INVESTMENTS (Note 2) | 3,804 | 3 | 6,861 | 10,668 | 9,491 |
| FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT, At Cost, Net of Accumulated Depreciation of $115 ($84 in 1978) | | 121 | | 121 | 126 |
| NATURAL LAND AREAS Held for Conservation | 117,481 | | | 117,481 | 127,031 |
| NATURAL LAND AREAS Held for Resale to Government for Conservation (Note 3) | 35,678 | | | 35,678 | 27,090 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | $164,496 | $4,094 | $8,080 | $176,670 | $168,351 |
| **LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES** | | | | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES: | | | | | |
| Collections Due Chapters | $ | $ 202 | $ | $ 202 | $ 155 |
| Demand Notes Payable and Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt (Note 1) | 7,993 | | | 7,993 | 4,216 |
| Other | 268 | 394 | | 662 | 329 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 8,261 | 596 | — | 8,857 | 4,700 |
| LONG-TERM DEBT (Note 1) | 10,689 | | | 10,689 | 10,148 |
| DEFERRED INCOME: (Note 4) | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | 513 | 863 | | 1,376 | 1,734 |
| Restricted | 3,666 | | | 3,666 | 1,613 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 23,129 | 1,459 | — | 24,588 | 18,195 |
| COMMITMENTS (Note 5) | — | — | — | — | — |
| FUND BALANCES: | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | 116,482 | 1,834 | 3,627 | 121,943 | 128,495 |
| Restricted | 24,885 | 801 | 4,453 | 30,139 | 21,661 |
| Total Fund Balances | 141,367 | 2,635 | 8,080 | 152,082 | 150,156 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES | $164,496 | $4,094 | $8,080 | $176,670 | $168,351 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances

(In Thousands of Dollars)

| | For the Years Ended | | Land Acquisition Funds | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | December 31, 1979 | December 31, 1978 | Unrestricted | Restricted |
| SUPPORT AND REVENUE: | | | | |
| General | $ 3,129 | $ 2,850 | $ | $ |
| Dues | 980 | 718 | | |
| Grants | 240 | 332 | | |
| Investment Income | 2,491 | 1,338 | | |
| Contracts | 385 | 323 | | |
| Overhead Billed to Government Projects | 477 | 417 | | |
| Recovery of Land Acquisition Expense | 1,936 | 1,087 | 1,936 | |
| State Programs | 784 | — | | |
| Total Support and Revenue | 10,422 | 7,065 | 1,936 | |
| EXPENSES: | | | | |
| Program Services: | | | | |
| Identification | 1,469 | 860 | | |
| Protection (Land Acquisition) | 3,608 | 2,602 | 1,936 | |
| Stewardship | 1,735 | 1,625 | | |
| Total Program Services | 6,812 | 5,087 | 1,936 | |
| Supporting Services: | | | | |
| Management and Support | 1,076 | 823 | | |
| Fund Raising | 1,562 | 909 | | |
| Total Supporting Services | 2,638 | 1,732 | | |
| Total Expenses | 9,450 | 6,819 | 1,936 | |
| EXCESS OF SUPPORT AND REVENUE OVER EXPENSES BEFORE CAPITAL ADDITIONS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | 972 | 246 | | |
| CAPITAL ADDITIONS: | | | | |
| Net Realized and Unrealized Investment Gains (Losses) | 290 | (136) | | |
| Interest and Dividends From Investments | 386 | 330 | | |
| Life Memberships | 175 | 317 | | |
| Land Acquisition | 5,595 | 6,160 | 5,595 | |
| Contributions and Grants | 8,154 | 10,374 | | 7,475 |
| Contributions of Land | 9,317 | 30,297 | 9,311 | 6 |
| Total Capital Additions | 23,917 | 47,342 | 14,906 | 7,481 |
| Less: Land Transfers to Other Agencies | 22,142 | 21,678 | 22,142 | |
| Transfers to Government Projects | 65 | 5 | 65 | |
| | 22,207 | 21,683 | 22,207 | |
| Net Capital Additions | 1,710 | 25,659 | (7,301) | 7,481 |
| EXCESS OF SUPPORT AND REVENUE OVER EXPENSES AFTER CAPITAL ADDITIONS | 2,682 | 25,905 | (7,301) | 7,481 |
| FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING | 150,156 | 124,361 | 124,275 | 17,050 |
| Transfer From (To) Other Funds | | | (492) | 354 |
| Transfers to Chapters and Other Projects | (756) | (110) | | |
| Transfers of Investment Income | | | | |
| FUND BALANCES, ENDING | $152,082 | $150,156 | $116,482 | $24,885 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

| | Operating Funds | | | Endowment Funds | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total |
| $ | $ 897 | $2,232 | $3,129 | $ | $ | $ |
| | 980 | | 980 | | | |
| | 240 | | 240 | | | |
| | 2,459 | 32 | 2,491 | | | |
| | 385 | | 385 | | | |
| | 477 | | 477 | | | |
| 1,936 | | | | | | |
| | 784 | | 784 | | | |
| 1,936 | 6,222 | 2,264 | 8,486 | | | |
| | 657 | 812 | 1,469 | | | |
| 1,936 | 1,198 | 474 | 1,672 | | | |
| | 678 | 1,057 | 1,735 | | | |
| 1,936 | 2,533 | 2,343 | 4,876 | | | |
| | 929 | 147 | 1,076 | | | |
| | 1,313 | 249 | 1,562 | | | |
| | 2,242 | 396 | 2,638 | | | |
| 1,936 | 4,775 | 2,739 | 7,514 | | | |
| | 1,447 | (475) | 972 | | | |
| | | | | 122 | 168 | 290 |
| | | | | 153 | 233 | 386 |
| | | | | 175 | | 175 |
| 5,595 | | | | | | |
| 7,475 | | | | 134 | 545 | 679 |
| 9,317 | | | | | | |
| 22,387 | | | | 584 | 946 | 1,530 |
| 22,142 | | | | | | |
| 65 | | | | | | |
| 22,207 | | | | | | |
| 180 | | | | 584 | 946 | 1,530 |
| 180 | 1,447 | (475) | 972 | 584 | 946 | 1,530 |
| 141,325 | 1,840 | 422 | 2,262 | 2,380 | 4,189 | 6,569 |
| (138) | (1,549) | 1,348 | (201) | 825 | (486) | 339 |
| | (57) | (645) | (702) | (9) | (45) | (54) |
| | 153 | 151 | 304 | (153) | (151) | (304) |
| $141,367 | $1,834 | $ 801 | $2,635 | $3,627 | $4,453 | $8,080 |

# Statement of Changes in Financial Position

For the Years Ending December 31, 1979, and 1978
(In Thousands of Dollars)

| | Land Acquisition Funds | Operating Funds | Endowment Funds | Total Funds 1979 | Total Funds 1978 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FINANCIAL RESOURCES WERE PROVIDED BY: | | | | | |
| Excess of Support and Revenue Over Expenses After Capital Additions | $ 180 | $ 972 | $ 1,530 | $ 2,682 | $25,905 |
| Add (Deduct) Items Not Using (Providing) Working Capital: | | | | | |
| Depreciation | | 31 | | 31 | 26 |
| Net Unrealized (Gains) Losses | | | (390) | (390) | 114 |
| Land Transfers to Other Agencies | 22,142 | | | 22,142 | 21,678 |
| Contributions of Land | (9,317) | | | (9,317) | (30,297) |
| Working Capital Provided by Operations | 13,005 | 1,003 | 1,140 | 15,148 | 17,426 |
| Proceeds From Sale of Natural Areas to Government | 19,060 | | | 19,060 | 33,373 |
| Increase in Deferred Income | 6,303 | 1,786 | | 8,089 | 8,548 |
| Long-Term Debt Borrowings | 2,280 | | | 2,280 | 8,661 |
| Sale or Redemption of Investments | 1,537 | 2 | 16,089 | 17,628 | 10,239 |
| Combined Transfers From (to) Other Funds | (138) | 103 | 35 | | |
| Total Resources Provided | 42,047 | 2,894 | 17,264 | 62,205 | 78,247 |
| FINANCIAL RESOURCES WERE USED FOR: | | | | | |
| Purchase of Natural Areas Held for Resale to Government for Conservation | 26,783 | | | 26,783 | 35,859 |
| Purchase of Natural Areas Held for Conservation | 4,140 | | | 4,140 | 7,288 |
| Purchase of Furniture and Fixtures | | 26 | | 26 | 50 |
| Acquisition of Investments | 2,311 | | 16,104 | 18,415 | 14,127 |
| Reduction of Long-Term Debt | 1,739 | | | 1,739 | 4,085 |
| Transfers to Chapters and Other Chapter Adjustments | | 702 | 54 | 756 | 110 |
| Expended Deferred Income | 4,917 | 1,477 | | 6,394 | 12,010 |
| Total Resources Used | 39,890 | 2,205 | 16,158 | 58,253 | 73,529 |
| INCREASE IN WORKING CAPITAL | $ 2,157 | $ 689 | $ 1,106 | $ 3,952 | $ 4,7[illegible] |
| CHANGES IN WORKING CAPITAL ACCOUNTS: | | | | | |
| Cash and Short-Term Investment | $ 5,976 | $ 972 | $ 1,054 | $ 8,002 | $ 189 |
| Interfund Advances | 114 | (166) | 52 | | |
| Other Current Assets | 13 | 94 | | 107 | 63 |
| Demand Notes Payable and Current Maturities | (3,777) | | | (3,777) | 4,650 |
| Collections Due Chapters | | (47) | | (47) | (44) |
| Other Current Liabilities | (169) | (164) | | (333) | (140) |
| INCREASE IN WORKING CAPITAL | $ 2,157 | $ 689 | $ 1,106 | $ 3,952 | $ 4,718 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# Schedule of Expenses

(In Thousands of Dollars)

| | Identification | Protection (Land Acquisition) | Stewardship | Fund Raising | Management and Support | Total 1979 | Total 1978 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Payroll and Benefits | $ 930 | $1,080 | $ 927 | $ 698 | $ 514 | $4,149 | $3,326 |
| Special Services | 7 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 4 | 40 | 33 |
| Recruitment | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 23 | 9 |
| Moving | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 18 | 6 |
| Telephone | 36 | 84 | 43 | 31 | 57 | 251 | 225 |
| Meetings and Travel | 98 | 205 | 118 | 69 | 115 | 605 | 411 |
| Office and Postage | 61 | 95 | 85 | 142 | 30 | 413 | 340 |
| Printing | 51 | 102 | 211 | 358 | 22 | 744 | 500 |
| Professional Fees | 42 | 213 | 57 | 69 | 73 | 454 | 180 |
| Taxes and Licenses | 21 | 69 | 29 | 7 | 9 | 135 | 92 |
| Dues and Subscriptions | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 3 |
| Interest | | 743 | | | | 743 | 515 |
| Rent | 54 | 62 | 35 | 36 | 86 | 273 | 200 |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 20 | 11 | 13 | 3 | 10 | 57 | 26 |
| Insurance | 6 | 10 | 8 | 2 | 37 | 63 | 44 |
| Books and Periodicals | 7 | 7 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 29 | 17 |
| Preserve Management | 10 | 32 | 18 | 6 | 2 | 68 | 56 |
| Data Processing | 14 | 6 | 7 | 65 | 42 | 134 | 103 |
| Acquisition Costs | 20 | 675 | 26 | 6 | | 727 | 186 |
| Advertising | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | 28 |
| Research and Survey | 57 | 63 | 74 | 19 | 10 | 223 | 335 |
| Depreciation and Amortization | | | | | 31 | 31 | 26 |
| Other | 27 | 129 | 59 | 30 | 16 | 261 | 158 |
| Total | $1,469 | $3,608 | $1,735 | $1,562 | $1,076 | $9,450 | $6,819 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# Notes to Financial Statements

**Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

This report classifies assets, liabilities and fund balances as unrestricted or restricted according to the intent of the donor.

**Recognition of Revenues and Expenditures:**

The Conservancy records expenses when incurred. Revenues are recorded when received, except for the following:

**Deferred Income:**

Operating Funds:

Deferred income in the operating fund represents unexpended contributions designated for specific purposes. The contributions are reflected in income as the designated expenses are incurred.

Land Acquisition Funds:

Unrestricted deferred income represents proceeds received in excess of expenditures incurred on transferred government projects. These amounts are used to finance future government projects, and to provide income to the general fund in the form of overhead recovery from government projects.

Effective December 31, 1979, the Conservancy will reflect in deferred income, the budgeted amount of overhead to be recovered by the general fund in the ensuing year. This estimate will be revised annually. Any excesses will be recorded as a capital addition in the Unrestricted Land Acquisition Fund.

Restricted deferred income represents proceeds received for future acquisition. These funds are reported as capital additions when they are used for their indicated purpose.

**Income Taxes:**

The Conservancy is a non-profit organization exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

**Land Acquisition Funds:**

Project Revolving Fund and Land Preservation Fund:

Capital contributions to the project revolving fund and the land preservation fund are reported as restricted land acquisition funds.

**Land:**

Land is recorded at its contributed value or cost. Parcels of land with restrictive covenants in the deed are reflected as restricted assets. The portion of land donated to the Conservancy and held for resale to the Government is also reflected in the fund balance. All land held for resale to the Government is reported as an unrestricted asset.

**Asset Lands:**

Asset lands primarily represent gifts of real property determined to have no ecological values. These parcels are sold to provide funds for the protection of ecologically important lands.

**Operating Funds:**

Furniture and Equipment:

Furniture and equipment is recorded at cost. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets ranging from four to seven years.

Employee Benefits:

The Conservancy has a non-contributory pension plan covering substantially all employees. Costs are accrued based on actuarial computations providing benefits for years of service and compensation. The cost for 1979 was $130,000.

**Endowment Funds:**

Natural Area and Guarantee and Income Funds:

The Natural Area Endowment Funds provide income for the maintenance and management of the Conservancy's preserves. Income derived from the Guarantee and Income fund is used for the general purposes of the Conservancy.

**Note 1. Cash and Short-Term Investments, Long-Term Debt**

| | (In Thousands of Dollars) Current | Long-Term |
|---|---|---|
| Land Acquisition Funds: | | |
| Demand Notes Payable | $2,017 | $ — |
| Notes Payable on Land no Longer Held | 103 | 435 |
| Loans and Mortgages Payable on Natural Areas Held for Conservation (Schedule III) | 691 | 873 |
| Loans and Mortgages Payable on Natural Areas Held for Resale to Government for Conservation (Schedule IV) | 5,182 | 9,381 |
| Total Land Acquisition Funds | $7,993 | $10,689 |

Included in notes payable on land no longer held is a note totalling $320,280 secured by a certificate of deposit of $470,000. Interest is payable quarterly with the entire principal due on August 15, 1984.

Cash and short-term investments in the land acquisition funds are solely held for the purchase of new parcels of land.

**Note 2. Investments**

Marketable securities in the endowment funds are in a pooled investment fund and are reflected at current market. The carrying value of investments by fund at December 31, 1979 were as follows:

| | (In Thousands of Dollars) Land Acquisition Funds | Operating Funds | Endowment Funds | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Notes Receivable | $ 533 | $ 3 | $ | $ 536 |
| Leased Land | | | 250 | 250 |
| Corporate Stocks, Bonds and U.S. Obligations | | | 6,611 | 6,611 |
| Asset Lands | 3,271 | | | 3,271 |
| Total | $3,804 | $ 3 | $6,861 | $10,668 |

Effective February 15, 1980, the finance committee of the Conservancy, authorized the transfer of $1,025,000 from the operating fund to the endowment fund. These funds were promptly invested in the pooled investment fund.

**Note 3. Natural Areas (Land) Held for Resale to Government for Conservation**

Properties so designated are purchased with the express intention of resale to government agencies; all costs are capitalized. The properties secure mortgages totalling $14,562,969 ($9,388,714 as of December 31, 1978).

**Note 4. Changes in Restricted Deferred Income Designated for Future Acquisitions**

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance January 1, 1979 | $1,613,534 |
| Additions: | |
| Contributions | 4,142,373 |
| Investment Income | 172,204 |
| | 4,314,577 |
| Deductions: | |
| Funds Expended for Natural Area Acquisitions | 2,262,248 |
| Balance December 31, 1979 | $3,665,863 |

**Note 5. Commitments**

The Conservancy is obligated on leases for its national and regional offices. The leases expire at various dates over the next fifteen years. The total monthly rental is $24,193. The minimum annual commitments are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1980 | $225,994 |
| 1981 | 179,556 |
| 1982 | 170,643 |
| 1983 | 166,853 |
| 1984 | 15,269 |
| 1985-89 | 61,950 |
| 1990-94 | 2,064 |
| | $822,329 |

The Conservancy has a verbal agreement covering a compensating balance arrangement on a total line of credit of $8,000,000. Fifteen percent of the total line is required to be maintained in the checking account. Withdrawal of this compensating balance is not legally restricted.

# Staff and Chapters

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Tony Angell, *Chapter Chairman*

WYOMING
Robert Kiesling, *State Director*
Mark R. Stromberg, *Heritage Coordinator*

# The Nature Conservancy

**National Office**
1800 N. Kent Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209
(703) 841-5300

**Eastern Regional Office**
294 Washington Street, Room 850
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
(617) 542-1908

**Southeast Regional Office**
1800 N. Kent Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209
(703) 841-5312

**Midwest Regional Office**
328 East Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414
(612) 379-2134

**Western Regional Office**
425 Bush Street, 5th floor
San Francisco, California 94108
(415) 989-3056

**New York Development Office**
36 West 44th Street, Room 307
New York, New York 10036
(212) 869-9532

**Northwest Field Office**
1234 N.W. 25th
Portland, Oregon 97210
(503) 228-9561

**California Field Office**
425 Bush Street, 5th floor
San Francisco, California 94108
(415) 989-3056

**Colorado Field Office**
820 Sixteenth Street, Suite 420
Denver, Colorado 80202
(303) 623-8088

**Florida Field Office**
1350 Orange Avenue, Suite 224
Winter Park, Florida 32789
(305) 628-5887

**Georgia Field Office**
7564 Lowilla Lane
Lithonia, Georgia 30058
(404) 482-4650

**Great Plains Field Office**
328 East Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414
(612) 379-2134

**Illinois Field Office**
79 West Monroe Street
Suite 708
Chicago, Illinois 60603
(312) 346-8166

**Indiana Field Office**
Route 1, Box 155
Nashville, Indiana 47448
(812) 988-7547

**Maryland/Delaware Field Office**
Chevy Chase Center Office Bldg.
35 Wisconsin Circle, Suite 304
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015
(301) 656-8673

**Michigan Field Office**
Suite F, 531 N. Clippert Street
Lansing, Michigan 48912
(517) 332-1741

**Minnesota Field Office**
328 East Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414
(612) 379-2134

**Montana/Wyoming Field Office**
P.O. Box 258
The Diamond Block
Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 443-0303

**New Mexico Field Office**
610 Gold Avenue, S.W.
P.O. Box 1846
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103
(505) 242-2015

**North Carolina Field Office**
P.O. Box 805
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514
(919) 967-7007

**Ohio Field Office**
1504 West 1st Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43212
(614) 486-4194

**Oregon Field Office**
1234 N.W. 25th
Portland, Oregon 97210
(503) 228-9561

**Pennsylvania/New Jersey Field Office**
1218 Chestnut Street, Suite 801
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
(215) 925-1065

**South Carolina Field Office**
P.O. Box 5475
Columbia, South Carolina 29250
(803) 254-9049

**Tennessee Field Office**
Capitol Hill Bldg., Suite 114
301 7th Avenue, N.
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
(615) 242-1787

**Texas Field Office**
201 N. St. Mary's, Suite 618
San Antonio, Texas 78205
(512) 222-9665

**Vermont Field Office**
7 Main Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602
(802) 229-4425

**Virginia Field Office**
415 Park Street
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901
(804) 295-6106

**Washington Field Office**
618 Smith Tower
Seattle, Washington 98104
(206) 624-9623

**West Virginia Field Office**
1100 Quarrier Street, Room 215
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
(304) 345-4350

**Wisconsin Field Office**
1922 University Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53705
(608) 233-9721

**Connecticut Chapter**
Science Tower, Box MMM
Wesleyan Station
Middletown, Connecticut 06457
(203) 344-0716

**Maine Chapter**
335 Water Street
Augusta, Maine 04330
(207) 623-2951

**Long Island Chapter**
P.O. Box 72
Cold Spring Harbor, New York 11724
(516) 367-3225

**Lower Hudson Chapter**
RFD #2, Chestnut Ridge Road
Mt. Kisco, New York 10549
(914) 666-5365

**Adirondack Conservancy**
P.O. Box 188
Elizabethtown, New York 12932
(518) 873-2610

**Eastern New York Chapter**
196 Morton Avenue
Albany, New York 12202
(518) 465-7768

**PHOTOS:** Jim Anderson, pp. 9, 10; Mr. & Mrs. John W. Bacon, p. 15; Roger Barbour, p. 14; Whitney Beals, p. 2 left; Susan Bournique, pp. 2 top, 3 left, 4 right, 6, 18; Ralph Crane, p. 2 lower right; Wallace C. Dayton, p. 4 left; Jane Frick, p. 2 lower left; Edward Gowans, p. 19; Alan Hutchinson, p. 12; Tim Loomis, p. 3 right; John D. Luke, p. 13; Nebraska Game & Fish Commission, p. 16; Jerry Paulson, p. 11; Tom Sennett, p. 5; Russ Van Herik, p. 21.

Cover photo by Tim Loomis.

A copy of the last financial report filed with the Department of State may be obtained by writing to: New York State, Department of State, Office of Charities Registration, Albany, New York 12231, or The Nature Conservancy, 1800 North Kent Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

# 30th Annual Meeting & Conference of The Nature Conservancy

## Tentative Schedule

### Thursday, September 25

6:00-9:00 p.m.
Early Registration,
Key Bridge Marriott Hotel

### Friday, September 26

7:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Registration and Information
9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Early Bird Activities
12:15-1:15 p.m.
Buffet Lunch.
Welcome and Opening Speaker.
1:15-3:45 p.m.
Open Board of Governors
Committee Meetings
1:15-2:30 p.m.
Development
Science/Land Stewardship
2:30-3:45 p.m.
Governmental Relations
Volunteer Activities
3:45-4:00 p.m.
Coffee Break
4:00-5:15 p.m.
Project Review

Daytime Activities Concluded

7:00-9:30 p.m.
Opening Reception
The Museum of Natural History,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

### Saturday, September 27

7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Registration and Information
9:00-9:30 a.m.
President's "Year in Review"
9:30-10:30 a.m.
Annual Meeting of the Membership,
The Nature Conservancy
10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Check-out Time for Field Trip
Participants
Theatre (Films of and by the
Conservancy)
12:15-1:45 p.m.
The Awards Luncheon
2:15 p.m.
Departures for Overnight Field Trips
(One or both of the following will be
offered: Virginia Coast Reserve, Great
Dismal Swamp.)

### Sunday, September 28

6:00 p.m.
Return from Field Trips

**More information concerning the Annual Meeting will be included in the next issue of the NEWS.**

## If you wish to receive registration materials . . .

Please fill out the form below, detach and return in an envelope to: *Meeting Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy, 1800 N. Kent Street, Suite 800, Arlington, Virginia 22209.* Complete registration packets detailing accommodations, attendance costs, and meeting activities will be forwarded to you at the beginning of August. Please note your *August address* if it is different from your current address. (This is a "request-for-information" form — *not* a registration blank.)

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**YES,** I am interested in attending the 30th Annual Meeting and Conference of The Nature Conservancy, scheduled for September 26-28, 1980, in Arlington, Virginia. Please send me the complete registration/information packet at the address printed below.

(Please print legibly)

Name_____

Address*_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Home phone_____ Business phone_____
(area code) number (area code) number

☐ I am currently a Conservancy member
Chapter_____

☐ I am not currently a Conservancy member and would be interested in receiving membership information.

*Please note August address if different

# 30th Annual Meeting & Conference

## September 26-28, 1980, in

. . . the heart of the nation. Washington, D.C., is one of America's first planned cities, elegant with monuments, parks, and gardens. Whether you walk the Capitol's corridors or the busy streets of colonial Georgetown, stand on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial or in the grand spaces of the National Gallery of Art — you'll find Washington your own way at the Conservancy's 30th Annual Meeting and Conference this fall.

The Key Bridge Marriott Hotel, a few blocks from the Conservancy's national office in Arlington, Virginia, will serve as headquarters for the 1980 meeting. Just across the Potomac River from Georgetown and the historic C & O Canal, the Marriott is close to the Rosslyn station of the city's impressive new Metro subway system, which makes travel to major points of interest quick and convenient.

The Conservancy's Annual Meeting offers you a chance to meet other members from all over the country, to reacquaint yourself with old friends, to exchange ideas and plans. Participants will begin arriving on Thursday evening, September 25. The following day, open Board of Governors committee meetings will commence after a buffet lunch; and in the evening, the Conservancy will hold its opening reception at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History. The president's "Year in Review" report, film showings, an awards ceremony, field trips, and other events will supplement the meeting of the membership on September 27th.

LOOKING DOWN THE POTOMAC, FROM THE CHAIN BRIDGE.

*(over please)*

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
**National Office**
1800 N. Kent Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209
(703) 841-5300

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